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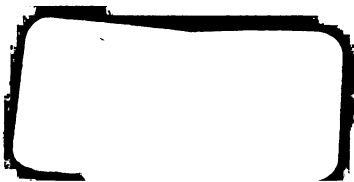
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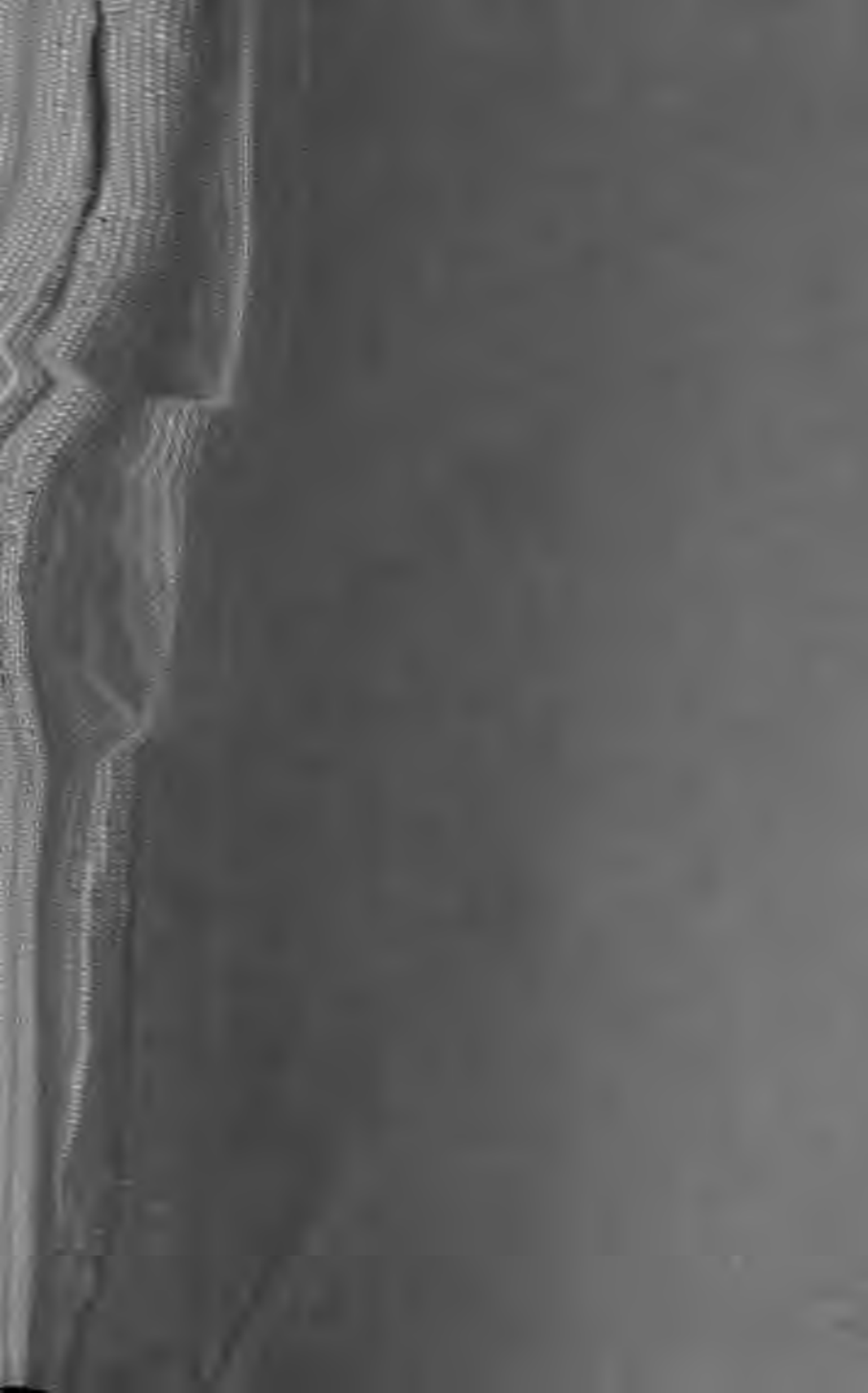
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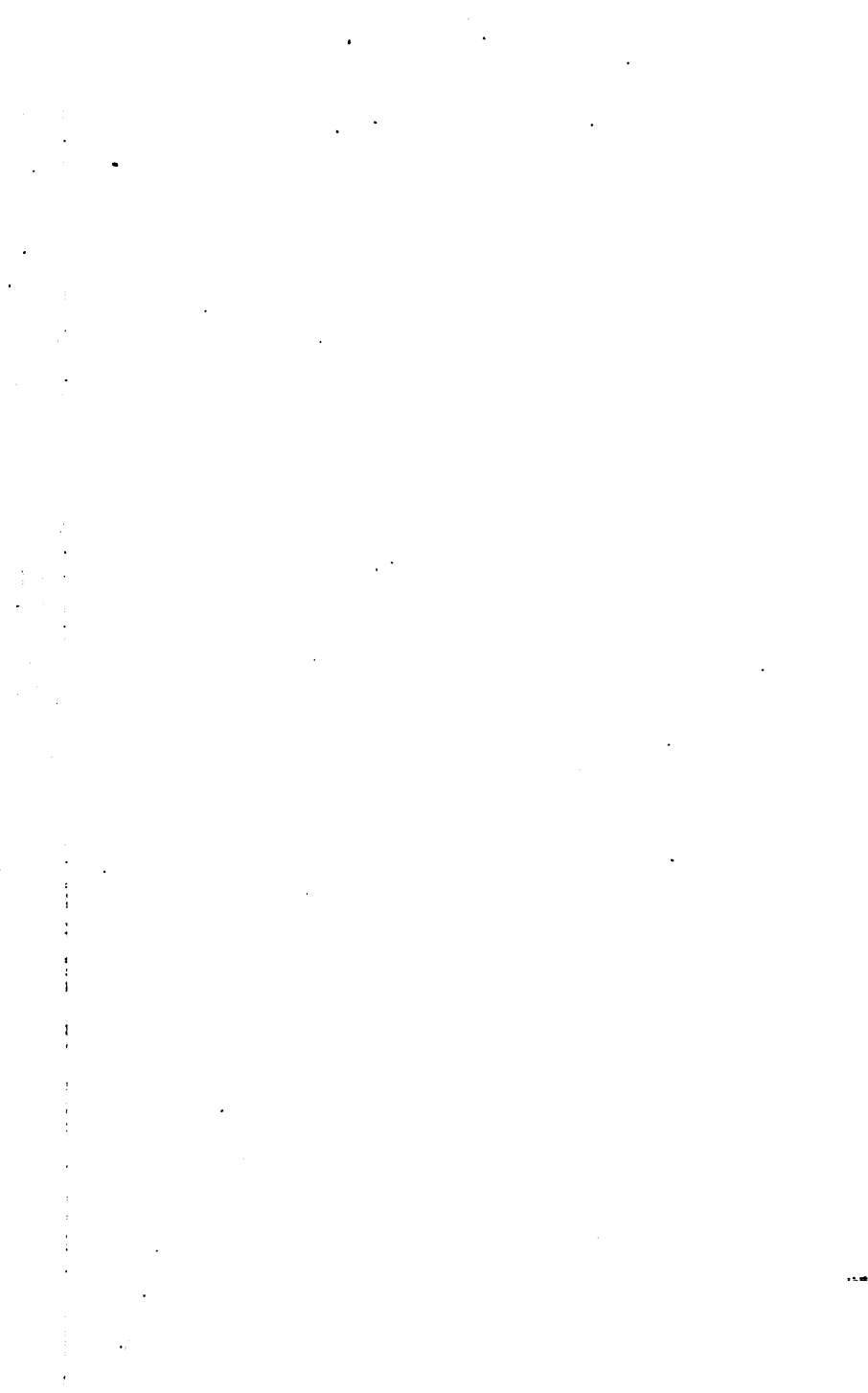
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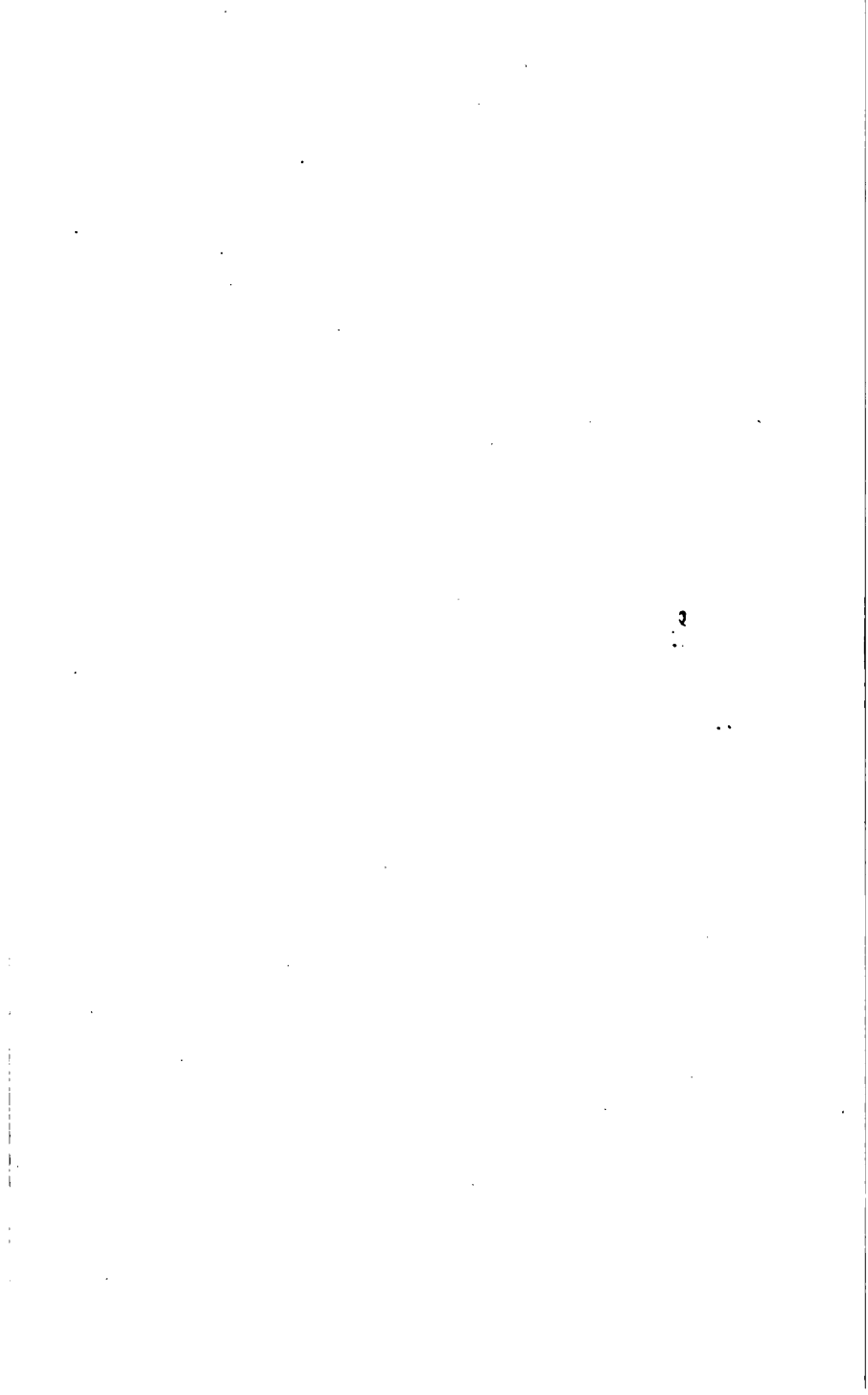












THE
HISTORY
OF
ROCHFORD HUNDRED,

(TOGETHER WITH THE PARISHES COMPRISED WITHIN THE UNION,)

FROM FORMER AUTHORS,

Ancient Manuscripts and Church Registers,

TREATING UPON VARIOUS SUBJECTS, INCLUDING NOTICES OF

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS;

The Clergy;

BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY OF FAMILIES;

TRADITIONS; SUPERSTITION;

AGRICULTURE; TITHE APPORTIONMENTS;

AND VARIOUS OTHER MATTERS.

BY PHILIP BENTON,

OF WAKERING HALL, ESSEX.

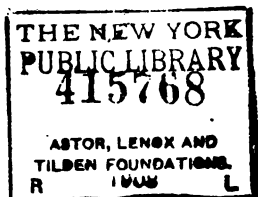
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n. n. i



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THE HISTORY OF ROCHFORD HUNDRED.

ASHINGDON.

DERIVATION OF NAME—DEDICATION OF CHURCH—BATTLE OF ASSINGDON—ANCIENT SEAL—MIRACULOUS IMAGE—PURITAN TIMES—REGISTERS—REV. NEHEMIAH ROGERS—TITHES—RATES HEYGATE FAMILY—WOOLLASTON CHARITY—SOIL—CHURCH, &c.



ASHINGDON is written in records, Assinden, Assindon, Assandum. Both Newcourt and Morant interpret Assan-dun, or dum, to mean the mount of asses. The former writer is silent as to the dedication of the church, and Morant tells us it is dedicated to St. Michael.* He probably was the original patron, as churches dedicated to that archangel are invariably on a hill, but those who inspect *Liber Regis*,§ will find St. Andrew has that honour. To account for this it may be noticed that fresh dedications occasionally occur, (for instance, at a rebuilding.) We are told likewise by Florence, of Worcester, that after the battle which took place on the festival of St. Luke, October 10th, 1016, this church was consecrated with great pomp, in the presence of Wolstan, archbishop of York, and many other bishops.

Some writers have fallen into the error of supposing that Ashdown, near Saffron Walden, was the scene of the decisive battle between Canute and Edmund Ironside, but later researches have conclusively pointed out this parish, and the neighbouring ones of Canewdon and Hockley, as the field of conflict. The remains of Canute's camp are still to be seen on Canewdon Hall. Then there are the Barrows, near

* Saint Michael has been termed a military saint.

§ *Liber Regis* is the valuation of the benefices temp. Henry VIII.

27-1-17-6
(2 vols)
181908
revised Mar 18, 1908

Hull Bridge,* where the discolourment of the earth in layers, would seem to point out the places of sepulture. What tends to strengthen these views is the fact, that when the Ashdown, or Bartlow mounds were opened in 1832, by Mr. Gage Rokewood, the remains in them were found to belong to the Roman period.

Salmon, in his history of Essex, has preserved the words used by the traitor, Eadric Streon,§ in running from victory:—"Flet Engle flet deb 17 Eðmond." This Eadric fled at the second charge, and brought ruin on his countrymen, and a great slaughter took place of the English nobility. The Ashingdon churchwarden's book, which commences in 1683, has an extract out of Camden, (by an unknown writer,) respecting this event:—

"Cannonium Antonini nunc Cannon-den (nomine vix immutato) vocamus a fraxinis Brittanniæ denominatum.

Onnen enim illis fraxinum significat et ager est fraxinis fecundus. Nec non Ashdounne (i.e.) fraxinorum mons proximus est. Olim prælio funesto nobis, quo cum Edmondus Cognomento Ferreum latus Danos initio prosperâ pugna contudisset; mox versâ fortunâ proditiōne Eadrici ita fuit a Danis, profligatus ut plurimos anglorum procures desideravit. In cujus prælii memoriam Canutum donum postea Templum eo loci posuisse legimus; cum ubicunque pugnasset poenitentia ob effusum sanguinem commotus sædulas erigeret," which is thus rendered:—

"The 'Antonine Cannonium,' we now, by a scarcely altered name call 'Cannonden,' being in British language so denominated from the ash trees. For 'onnen' by them signifies 'ashen,' and means a field abounding in ash trees. Likewise 'Ashdounne' is a neighbouring hill of ash trees, formerly celebrated for a bloody battle, when Edmond, surnamed the Ironside, in a successful fight had at first beaten the Danes. Soon fortune having changed by the treachery of Eadric, he was so put to the rout by the Danes,

* One of these barrows has been removed, another opened, and the indication to be inferred is that the slain were burned, and their ashes placed as above stated. Burning the corpse was common in the southern part of this island, a custom derived from the Romans, and it was practised likewise by the Danes, even when converted to christianity.

§ He is said by some writers to have caused the murder of Edmund, at Oxford, shortly after the division of the kingdom between the rivals.

that he lost the greater portion of the English nobility. In memory of which battle we infer that Canute, as a gift or thank-offering, afterwards built a church in that locality; since, wheresoever he had engaged in battle, actuated by repentance on account of the effusion of blood, he was accustomed to erect shrines, or little chapels."

William, of Malmesbury, (150 years later), speaks of Ashingdon as one of the churches erected upon this occasion. The battle took place in 1016, and the result gave Canute the northern part of England, by partition.

This parish at the conquest was part of the territory of Suene, and after his grandson's forfeiture, for cowardice in the Welsh wars, it has been in the same hands as Hawkwell, the Bayouse, the Coggeshale, Doreward, Bullen, and Rich families, who presented to both livings.

Laurence de Kendell, who died in the reign of Edward I. held land by the service of one garland of roses under Philip Mansell, and in Assindon and Rochford under John de Rochford, at a money rent. In 1340 Reginald Garry or Snarry, held lands and houses of the honor* of Raley, and about the same period, one John Garry or Snarry was incumbent. As late as 1849 a silver seal§ was found in this parish, which formerly belonged to Richard or Reginald Snarry, in the time of Edward III. This seal was identified by Mr. King, of Bow, from a record of an inquisition taken on the death of Thomas de Stapel, who is buried in Shopland Church. Snarry's name is on the seal, which is in the possession of Mr. Crafter, of Gravesend; upon it is the device of a snail, probably adopted from the three first letters

* Or Barony.

§ The seal was found in a field called the Ten Acres upon Chamberlains, opposite the barn at the wont way, by Thomas Brown whilst hoeing in 1849, and, after passing through several hands, was sold to a watchmaker at Gravesend, where Mr. Crafter saw and obtained it. It weighs 1oz. and 2dwts. For a farther account of this seal and an engraving, see the "Journal of the British Archæological Association."

being identical with his name, Snail and Snarry; this often suggested a device at that period. We may mention that "Smiths," the residence of Mr. H. Keyes, in Greenstead Lane, was formerly known by the name of "Snares."

We come now to a period in the history of Ashingdon, whereby its name of asses' hill seems to have been well applied, as the hill leading to the church was the scene of gross superstition and imposture. A rector who had the cure of souls in the early part of the 14th century, imposed upon the laity in an extraordinary manner. An image was placed in this church, reported to perform miracles, and numbers resorted to it, (the pilgrims as is traditionally affirmed, crawling up the hill on their knees to visit the shrine); the intercessions of the saint being supposed to be highly efficacious in the cases of females desirous of heirs.

For generations after this period it was considered lucky to be married at this church—so difficult is it to get over prejudice. Salmon tells us "the meagre parson wanted butter to his turnips," but his proceedings seem to have excited the ire and jealousy of the neighbouring clergy, whose revenues were curtailed. Upon representations made to the Bishop of London Ralph Baldock, (in the London Registry called Baudake,) he granted a commission between 1304 and 1313 "to the official of the Archdeacon of Essex, and to the vicar of Prittlewell, to go to this church and search into the form and quality of this image, and to make a report after due search about the imposition of these miracles, and into the cause of such a sudden confluence of people thither, and threatening excommunication against any man circumventing the people by any false inventions, sequestering in the mean time whatever oblations had been made to it." We have no record

as to the result of their enquiries, or whether this imposture survived to a later period.*

There is a doubt who held the living at this time; the induction of William de Bayouse, the first rector of Ashingdon upon record, took place on the 3rd of May, 1323. In 1429 this church was united to Hawkwell, (with the consent of William Gray, bishop of London,) but separated again in 1457, when John Doreward was patron. This family presented upon several occasions, the last in 1492, when it fell into the Boleyn family. Several of the rectors, of whom no memorials remain but their names, were chantry priests, before they were beneficed.

Richard Alen, who died in the 9th year of Henry VIII, held, of the Priory of St. Mary de Colne, a messuage called "Beckneys," and 300 acres of pasture, 200 of marsh in Assingdon, Hockley, and South Fambridge. William Harrys, (the same found in several other parishes) at the time of his death in 1555, held the manor of Beckney of Lord Riche. Christopher Harrys, who lived at Shenfield, held the same, and likewise "Cristellhall,"§ partly in this parish and Rochford, of the Lord Hunsdon: his son William was knighted. This family were tenants here for more than a century. Upon the partition of the Warwick estates, this manor fell to the share of Henry Viscount Bolingbroke, who sold it to Viscount Castlemain—afterwards Earl Tilney.

The farm called "Chamberlain's," was so named after Richard le Chamberlayn, who held of the king in capite in 1285. The notorious Richard Lord Rich acquired this manor and advowson, and presented to the latter in 1560. His descendant,

* Memorials of "feigned miracles, pilgrimages, &c.," were taken away in 1547.

§ The property here indicated cannot be pointed out, as none of the Ashingdon farms answer this description at the present day.

Robert Earl of Warwick, who took a conspicuous part in the troubles of the civil wars, presented successively the following Puritan clergymen to the living:—Josiah Church, in 1641; John Gibson, in 1644; Samuel Keble, upon the resignation of Gibson in 1649; and James Fisher, in 1655. It appears there were only five clergymen in Rochford hundred ejected for loyalty and conformity: they were Elizeus Burgess, of Canewdon, Roboshobery Dove, of Foulness, John Vicars, of South Fambridge, Walter Holmes, of Southchurch, and John Browning, of Rawreth, the latter was a native of Worcester: all the rest appear to have complied with the injunction of Parliament and Presbytery.*

The Earl of Warwick § filled all the livings in his gift in this hundred with men of the Sectarian school. He possessed great power in this district, and was patron of Hadleigh, Leigh, Ashingdon, South Shobury, Prittlewell, Rochford, Foulness, Hawkwell, Southchurch, Butlers, and Shopland: his house at Little Leighs was the common rendezvous of all schismatical preachers in those parts. He died in 1658, aged 70.†

And now an incident is noted in the registers that throws some light upon the manners of the Puritans. William Harris, of Moonds, who lost his first wife, Elizabeth, on 13th of May, 1656, and buried her at Rayleigh on 16th, being Holy Thursday, soon afterwards became engaged to Mrs. Mary Tourney, daughter of Mr. Robert Tourney, parson of South Fambridge. They were married by Henry Mildmay,

* The county commissioners before whom the clergy were cited, and depositions taken against them, sat at Maldon. The Act forbidding the use of the Book of Common Prayer, August 23rd, 1645 (St. Bartholomew's eve), was fatal to many. Cromwell, in his orders to the judges of assizes, commanded them to suppress certain nuisances, including "Ale houses and the Prayer Book."

§ According to Clarendon he was a man of jollity, and anything but a Puritan in his life and conversation.

† His family had become enriched by the confiscation of church property and the religious houses at the Reformation.

Esq., justice of the peace, October 17th, 1656, and "solemnized" their wedding day on the 23rd, at Hockley parsonage: (Cleer and Plary are mentioned as the names of their daughters.) She survived her husband, and was subsequently married to Christopher Cornish, of South Benfleet, in 1665. In the same year as their master, Harris, John Miller and Mary Webb, his servants, were intermarried by Whitcomb, justice of the peace, upon the 7th of November. Whitcomb was of Copford Hall, near Margaretting, and a Parliamentarian. Mary Tournay's father, the rector of South Fambridge, conformed at the restoration. It is not clear which Mildmay is indicated as officiating at the marriage: there were six families of Mildmays in Essex at the same time.* Sir Henry Mildmay, master of the jewel office, and son of Humphrey Mildmay of Danbury, was one of the judges of Charles I. His residences were at Wanstead and Stoke Newington; and he sat in parliament for Maldon. The estate had been granted him by James the First; and judge Bramston, in his autobiography, strongly condemns his conduct. He was guilty of the basest treachery and hypocrisy, and more detested by the Royalists than any Puritan of his time. He was a member of the committee for the ejection of the (alleged) scandalous ministers: he voted for the king's death; and after the restoration was condemned to be dragged to the place of execution, and finally imprisoned in the Tower for life. There were beside him Henry of Moulsham, Henry of Graces in Little Baddow, and Henry of Woodham-Walter, who was sheriff in the reign of Charles I. Henry of Graces was a Puritan, and the great enemy and persecutor of judge Bramston, and Dr. Michaelson, rector of Chelmsford. As

* The Mildmays trace their descent from Hugo Mildene, or Mildone, who lived circa 1147. Walter Mildmay resided at Writtle, the latter part of the reign of Henry VII, and one of the family (a royalist Captain) was amongst the prisoners at the siege of Colchester.

the name is written plain Henry Mildmay, it was probably one of the latter who performed the ceremony.

The registers go on to inform us that the solemn league and covenant was signed in this parish when Samuel Keble was minister: a copy of it still remains. Very few signatures can be deciphered, on account of the dampness and obliteration incidental from time. The names of several women are appended; and amongst the men appears Samuel Purchass, (probably the rector of Sutton). We may here state there were three documents issued by the parliament for subscription, viz:—The Parliamentary Protestation, the Solemn League and Covenant, and the Vow and Covenant, which followed in succession. These records of the past were often mutilated, cancelled and destroyed at the Restoration, especially the last. The Protestation (1641) was against Popery and popish innovations, and with its explanations which formed part of it, excluded any acknowledgment of the forms, discipline, government, rites and ceremonies of the Church of England. The Solemn League and Covenant (1643) bound the subscribers to the extirpation of popery, prelacy, (that is church government by Archbishops and Bishops,) and the renunciation of neutrality in the approaching struggle. The Vow and Covenant, (three months after the Solemn League and Covenant, June 16, 1643,) was a political vow in favor of the parliament against the king. An unknown hand has traced these lines beneath:—

“What more? Vow, Covenant, and Protestation,
All to maintain the Church and English nation;
A threefold cord sure is not easilee broken,
For so ye wiseman hath divinellie spoaken.
But all in vaine; men's hearts with guile are fraught,
Great ones break through, small fishes they are caught.
Three nations thus are twisted all in one,
Three nations thus are three times three undone.”

The register* for burials commences in 1564; the christenings in 1566, and marriages in 1568.

There is a note to the effect that "The Rectory House was removed by Gabriel Price§ in 1621 from the Glebe Land near the wont way, to the north side of the church, and (in a minute it states) the Right Hon. Robert Earl of Warwick contributed ten loads of timber thereto; and in 1642 Josiah Church built a lean-to." The house rebuilt by Gabriel Price still exists, within a few rods to the north of the present rectory house: the latter was erected by the Rev. Septimus Nottidge, in 1855. In 1644 we find that Josiah Church resigned this living, and removed to Sea church, as curate: the curacy was five pounds better than the rectory, which latter at that period was worth only £60 per annum.

We come now to notice the Rev. Nehemiah Rogers, who was presented to this living in 1687 by Henry St. John, and was curate of Little Stambridge in 1697. His first wife, Lydia, was buried at Ashingdon, August 14th, 1695, and several of his children sleep beneath the same sod. He was married again at Canewdon to Mrs. Elizabeth Ailiffe, widow, of Rochford, in 1696. He was son of the rector of Great Tey, where he was born, and grand-nephew of the Rev. Nehemiah Rogers, ejected from Messing by the Puritans. He was descended from John Rogers, the first martyr executed by fire in Mary's reign, Feb. 4th, 1555, of whose descendants it is said that the eldest son for many generations has been a minister of the gospel; and many of them eminently distinguished.

* The keeping of the registers was entrusted to the clergy by royal injunction in the reign of Henry VIII, A.D. 1538, Cromwell being Prime Minister; but, during the Commonwealth, an Act of Parliament was passed, August 24th, 1653, giving power to parishioners to choose a registrar. Publications of intended marriage were made at the close of morning exercise, or in the market-place. At the restoration the clergy resumed the duties of which they had been temporarily deprived.

§ He held likewise the living of North Shoebury.

The rector of Ashingdon appears to have been a black sheep: he was one of the notorious "Fleet Parsons," whose misdoings occasioned the introduction of Lord Hardwick's marriage law: he was incarcerated in 1702, probably for debt. The Fleet was famous for clandestine marriages: sometimes young men fresh from a debauch were irrevocably tied to a common "meretrix:" young women were often abducted, stupified with drink or opiates, and married. Nehemiah Roger's private Fleet register is extant in the London Registry, having been purchased it is said by the late Bishop of London.* Either Ashingdon had not lost its prestige for marriage, or Rogers had some magnetic influence, for there appears to have been an extraordinary number of couples united during his incumbency; people coming from all parts. Amongst the rest was William Moorbeck and Sarah Bowen, of Foulness, in 1690: they were widower and widow. Amongst the fees for Ashingdon in 1688 we read "for churching a woman, one shilling or one yard of holland; for the sexton's dues for a burial in the yard—without a coffin 1s. 8d., with a coffin 2s. 8d." The yard of holland was the face cloth or chrisome,§ that covered the child after baptism; and that rite generally preceded churching. If the child died before the mother was churched, it was customary to use the chrisome or vesture as a shroud, and to wrap the child in it when buried. With respect to coffins they did not come into general use until the close of the seventeenth century, and interments were seldom deferred beyond three days.

Then follows this entry:—"The manner of tithing

* The Fleet marriages were put an end to by Act of Parliament in 1754, which had lasted 80 years. These registers, which weigh above a ton, were collected and placed in the Bishop of London's Registry in 1821, but they are said to be no longer received as evidence. For a full account the reader is referred to Burn's History of the Fleet Registers, an excessively rare book.

§ Chrism oil is used in the Roman and Greek churches, and was formerly in use at baptism in the Church of England, being prescribed in the first Prayer Book of Edward VI., which was in force till 1552.

in this parish, as the tithes were paid to Mr. John Bird, rector in the year 1563, and who lived here 35 years, transcribed from the old books (in 1688) by Mr. Forward, rector," (Forward was presented by Charles, Earl of Warwick, in 1662). "Tithes of geese,* if there be above five and under ten, one is due for tithe, paying for many half-penny back as there wants of ten; of pigges the like; of calves a penny back; for the fall of a foale or colt 2s. 6d.; for lambs one due for tithe out of six, and one penny due for each that wants of ten; for wool either by the 10lbs. or the tenth fleece; hay by the tenth haycock; and corn by the tenth shock, or the tenth sheaf, as the parson chuseth." Farther on is added to the tithes of geese, that "ducks, turkeys, pigeons, pay the same, and for cows the tenth days' milk." Respecting tithe wood, there is a subsequent entry in the parish book that all trees under the notion of *silva cadua* are titheable (17th Edward III), and that twelve standils are to be left in every acre, under a penalty of 3s. 4d., (13th Elizabeth). *Silva cadua*§ or *sylva cædua* signifies underwood, and the standils or standels mean young oaks; and with reference to the fine, if something of this nature (greater in amount) had been levied in our days, we should not be witness to so many woods being ruined by negligent owners and agents, and it would have been a protection against the cupidity of grasping woodmen.

There are two cottages in Rochford near the Crown Inn belonging to Ashingdon, the rents of which are applied to the poor rate: in 1687 the rent per annum was only 20s. In the same year there was a collection for slaves in Sally,† taken in the

* Geese, in Bird or Byrd's time, were worth from 4d. to 6d. each.

§ In records the same as *trebois* and *sub-boscus*.

† No doubt meant for Sallee, a noted place for pirates in the Mediterranean. Upon landing, in England, these Turkey slaves as they were commonly called, had passes granted them, to shew they were not imposters or vagabonds, and so travelled from parish to parish to the place of their ultimate destination.

"Mary," amounting to two shillings. There is a record of a jury of three matrons sitting upon a woman, reported to be greatly abused and starved to death in 1695.

The following is a copy of the surveyor's accounts for 1683 :—

Reed of Sam Fisk	s. 10
Reed of Peter Diamons	5
Total	<hr/> 15 <hr/>
laid out	s.
for laborers	4
spent upon them	2 6
for gravel	4
for one journey to Chelms- ford to return a warrant }	2 6
total	<hr/> 13 <hr/>

The churchwarden's book commences in 1683, and in 1730 is the following assessment :—

£	
54	Thomas Sly, for Chamberlains
10	ditto for the Glebe (26 acres)
67	Chris Hatchman, for Moones
3	Timothy Chrusah, part of Brayes
5	Thomas Wright, for part of Pulpitts
80	Mr Reynolds, for Beckney
18	Thomas Sly. for part of Smiths
15	John Sams, for hoades
40	William Watts, for Mr. Hackers land
8	Goulden Cross, part of it
1	William Watts, his own land
3	Thomas Purkos, part of Mr. Poles land

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There are according to the tithe commutation map in this parish, 1147 acres, 1 rood 9 perches, (exclusive of waste, roads, and churchyard, amounting to 17 acres,) and in contrast to the above rate, the assessment committee of 1863 passed the rateable value at £1563 10s., including land, tithe, and houses.

Thomas Sly, mentioned above was an opulent farmer, of whom more will be said hereafter, and "Chamberlain's" is the farm near the wont-way. In

Norden's map (1594,) it is marked Chamblaine. It was held by Edmond Higatte* in the fifteenth century, who was resident, and the burial of Dorryly his wife took place here, August 7th, 1570. The double cottage upon the summit of the hill was formerly the farm house, and a member of the Kesterman family resided in it, in later times, who likewise held "Smith's." These two farms are in three parishes, Ashingdon, South Fambridge, and Hockley. Woollaston,§ who flourished in the seventeenth century, was owner of "Chamberlains," and probably farmed it himself, as in his will mention is made that he had twenty score of sheep on the "Sakings." There are seven trustees of the charity (so named from him,) which is unconnected with the parish, except so far as they are owners of the property.

By the kindness of a gentleman connected with the estate we are enabled to give the following account thereof. The founder was Richard Woollaston, of Wormley, in Hertfordshire, who by a codicil to his will, dated 27th February, 1689, appointed his son John his sole executor, and (*inter alia*) to see £100 a year paid "for poor distressed people to buy cloth, to clothe such of them as really want clothing, and are by my executor really judged to fear God, though of different opinions—as he will answer it to Christ—so long as any of my estate lasts."

The affairs of the charity were subsequently the

* The will of Thomas Heygate was proved in 1557, whose wife was Margaret. His son was Edmond, as above. He bequeathed his manor of Chamberleynes with kine, and sheep thereon, his ploughs, several horses, a little white mare, his crops and silver spoons to his wife Margaret. He had three daughters, Joane, married to Thomas Arkesden, of Retingden; Margaret, to Walter Gardener, of Cheffeld; and Thomasine. He left legacies to all his servants. He had a marsh at Fawkenham called the manor of Russelles. The Heygates of Southend though not descended, are connected with this branch. Arkesden is the name of a Parish in Uttlesford Hundred. [For a farther account of the Heygate Family see Prittlewell]

§ The name of John Wollaston amongst others, in 1642, is appended to a letter circulated through this county, requiring the trained bands and volunteers to march to London, to defend the Parliament against the King (in trembling haste). See Morant.

subject of chancery proceedings, under which a scheme was settled for the regulation of the charity, and under an order dated 1704, a sum of £2000, arising from the estate of the founder was ordered to be invested in lands, of the then value of £100 per annum. This sum was invested in the purchase of freehold estates in the parishes of Ashingdon, South Fambridge, and Latchingdon, which had belonged to the founder of the Charity, and under the scheme approved by the court of chancery the rents were to be distributed, and have ever since been distributed, in the parishes of Whitchurch, in Hampshire, Wormley, in Hertfordshire, and Lowesby, Cold-newton, Billesdon, Twyford, Baresby, and South Croxton, in Leicestershire, in the proportion of three-fifths of a moiety to Whitchurch, two-fifths of the same moiety to Wormley, and the remaining moiety to the Leicestershire parishes; one-tenth each to Lowesby and Cold-newton, and two-tenths to each of the other parishes. The rental available for distribution has increased from £100 to upwards of £300 per annum.

Woollaston was a merchant in London; his eldest son Josiah, who died in his father's lifetime, lived at Lowesby, and his descendant Sir Isaac Lawrence Woollaston, of Lowesby, baronet, left two sisters, co-heiresses, one of whom married an ancestor of the present Sir Thomas Woollaston White, of Walling and Wells, baronet, the other married an ancestor of the present Sir Frederick Thomas Fowke, of Lowesby Hall, baronet, who as heir of the founder, now exercises a superintendence over the distribution of the charity, pursuant to the orders of the court of chancery. The funds in each parish are laid out in the purchase of coats, waistcoats and breeches, for a certain number of men, and in gowns, under-garments, flannel, &c. for women; under the superintendence of trustees acting in each parish.

Respecting the family of Chris^t Hatchman, rated

for Moones; in the churchyard is to be seen a monument to Christopher Hatchman, son of Christian Hatchman, who died in 1749, on the 24th July, aged 16 years. There was an Edward Hatchman lived at Scott's Hall, in Canewdon, in 1682, and a John Hatchman, at Little Doggetts.

Goulden Cross is so named from the cross formerly existing at the three-wont way, leading to Hawkwell church. These crosses were set up to inspire recollection and reverence.

EXTRACTS FROM THE BURIALS.

"Horsenayle,"* mentioned in 1572,
 "Higatte" in 1570
 "Pratt, Joane"
 "Pratt, Nicholas" } in 1573.

These latter were of French extraction, and subsequently emigrated to America; their descendants having made enquiries for their registers within these five years. Among the marriages we find that James Adams, vid, (a widower,) married Sarah Brown, Soluta (that is loosed from the bands of matrimony by the death of her husband)§, upon 8th June, 1692. The peculiarity is that the banns were published in three parishes, Canewdon, Ashingdon, and Rochford. The registers are imperfect as to marriages from 1703 to 1726 and from 1726 to 1750.

AMONGST THE CHRISTENINGS.

Underwood,	mentioned in 1597.	
Sweeting	"	1614
Lucking	"	1659
Griffith Wood, curate	"	1667, to John Forward.
Vassal	"	1671
Maldon	"	1671
Fisk	"	1693
Pennyfather	"	1693
T. Bate, curate	"	1768
B. Gregson, curate	"	1777
Joseph Wise, curate	"	1779
Keyes	"	1788

} to Angel Silke.

Joseph Wise was likewise curate of Rochford and

* "Horsenayle" was the name of a rector of Brundon in 1561. It is now to be found corrupted into Horsnell.

§ Other interpretations have been put upon "Soluta," as it occurs in parish registers, and its meaning has been much discussed. Our opinion, as seen, is, that it is equivalent to *Vidua*, when used as above.

rector of Nevendon. Angel Silke never resided at Ashingdon.

"Moon's Farm," now belonging to Mr. William Keyes, was formerly the property of Lord Harewood. Mr. Henry Mew is the owner of "Beckney,"* which he inherited from his uncle. Ashingdon Hall, (part of which extends into Little Stambridge) was at one time the property of the late Mr. John Dowler, who resided upon the spot, and farmed it. It now belongs to his nephew, Mr. Alfred White, F.S.A., of West Drayton, Middlesex, together with part of "Moon's," which was sold some years ago, and annexed to the Hall. "Rounsefulls," otherwise Rouncefall, Rounsevalls or Cattlynsland, a farm on the hill, belongs to Miss Emma Potter. It pays a quit rent to the manor of Pudsey Hall.

The parish of Kew has nine acres twenty-six poles of wood land, and twenty-three acres three roods of arable land, formerly wood. The vicar of Kew has twenty-three acres three roods eighteen poles (pulpits).

This parish is a rectory, with the tithes commuted at £291 per annum, including £6 on the glebe. William and Michael Arnold succeeded Henry St. John as patrons, by purchase, and presented in 1710; followed by Thomas Harrison, and subsequently by William Wright. It was then sold to the Rev. John Jeremiah Brock, maternal uncle of the Rev. J. Nottidge, to whom he presented the living (upon the death of Angel Silke in 1791), and bequeathed him the advowson.

The Rev. J. J. Brock was born at Bocking, and probably educated at Felsted Grammar School. For fifty years he was resident curate of Great Easter near Dunmow: his rector and parishioners gave him a silver cup upon the completion of his fiftieth year, just one month previous to his decease on the third of October, 1818. The Rev. John Nottidge was not

* This farm is completely isolated from the rest of the parish, being separated from it by a narrow strip of South Fambridge.

only nephew but godson of Brock : he was the second son of Josiah Nottidge, of Bocking, a successful manufacturer in the baize and woollen trade. Having been educated at Felsted and Cambridge, he was ordained curate of Rayne near Braintree, and subsequently, as before stated, was presented to the rectory of Ashingdon by his uncle, and to the rectory of East Hanningfield by his father. He resided at the latter place fifty-one years, and was presented with a silver epergne by his parishioners, in testimony of their respect. The clergy likewise, and supporters of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge presented him with a handsomely bound Bible, for his services as secretary to the district branch of the society at Chelmsford. Both the living and advowson of Ashingdon are now in the hands of his son, the Rev. Septimus Nottidge, (and as his name implies the seventh), who was inducted in 1846,—whom, may God long preserve.

The soil of Ashingdon is strong and heavy, much of it requiring under-draining. When Vancouver made his calculation in 1794, he found the rent of Assingdon to average thirteen shillings per acre, (the wages to horsekeepers being nine shillings a week). And when Arthur Young gleaned his information in 1807, he tells us that Major Carr, of the Lawn, Rochford, informed him that on the strong clays around the church “do what they will,” only from three quarters to three-and-a-half quarters of wheat per acre could be obtained; and five quarters of oats. He likewise heard from Mr. Keyes, that “black grass, though then exceedingly prevalent, was almost unknown thirty years previously.”

With respect to rents, there is no doubt they have more than doubled since that period, and as to crops, with an improved system of husbandry, a greater result can now be obtained. Black grass no doubt received a great impetus in its propagation from the

old custom of frequently sowing fallows with wheat. Wages in 1807 were 2s. 6d. per day to ploughmen.

Ashington church has the appearance of being one of the oldest in the hundred. It has a stone tower with a tiled roof. The arch of the doorway on the north side has been pronounced by some to be Saxon. The tower and nave show traces of the late perpendicular period. The chancel appears to have been curtailed, and foundations are still extant at the east end. The chancel arch is partially destroyed; no step exists between it and the nave; this very likely was levelled in consequence of an ordinance issued during the commonwealth. There is a Piscina* in the south wall of the chancel, and a square aumbry§ or closet in the north wall, and in the body of the church on the north wall a recess, partly concealed by a pew. The image formerly mentioned was probably under a projecting canopy, or placed upon a bracket. The single bell is comparatively modern, with the names of Thomas Keyes and Benjamin Palmer, churchwardens, upon it. The old one was cracked† and sold. The churchyard fence is repaired at the expense of the parish. A horse block formerly existed on the west side. Upon the church grows in abundance, a small and delicate fern, Wall Spleenwort, (*Asplenium Trichomanes*.) In

* Piscina, a water drain placed near to an altar in a church: it consists of a shallow stone basin or sink with a hole in the bottom to carry off whatever is poured into it. It was used to receive the water in which the priest washed his hands, as well as that with which the chalice was rinsed after the celebration of mass. It is frequently placed within a niche, sometimes called Fenestella, though the basin very frequently projects from the face of the wall. Within the niche there is often a wooden or stone shelf, which served the purpose of a credence-table, to receive certain of the sacred vessels that were used in the service, previously to their being required for the altar. Sometimes there is room for these to stand at the side of the basin.

§ Aumbry, Ambry, Almary, or locker for the sacred vessels.

† Bells are frequently cracked through the practice of "clocking" them, the rope being hitched round the flange of the clapper; in fact they are rarely injured except through the ignorance or negligence of those who have the care of them.

pursuing the amusement of fern collecting, care should be taken to avoid destroying any unnecessarily.

At the present day there are no manorial courts held in the parish. Population in 1835, ninety-eight, in 1841 one hundred and seventeen, and in 1861 ninety-nine. The tithes were apportioned by Samuel Baker, of Hawkwell Hall, and John Mew, of Apton Hall, in 1839.

ERRATUM in certain numbers that have passed into circulation.

By inadvertence, while endeavouring to ascertain the precise date of the Commission respecting the reported miracles at Ashingdon, reference was made, by a transposition of dates to 1404 (the date of the death of Bishop Braybrooke) instead of to 1304 (the date of the election of Bishop Baldock). The Commission was evidently issued between 1304 and 1313, in which year Baldock died, and consequently prior to the induction of William de Bayouse, the first rector of Ashingdon upon record, which took place on the 3rd of May, 1323. The mode of approaching the image, and the results believed to have been obtained, by the intercession of the Saint whom it represented, rest upon local tradition.

NOTE.—Chamberlains pays a fee farm-rent of 10s. 4d. to the Lawless Court, held at King's Hill, at Rochford.

Greenstead Lane was formerly known by the name of Greensward Lane.

Barrows are called cairns in Ireland, Wales and Scotland, and mounds in Russia and Scandinavia.

Tovy or Tovi the Dane, was standard bearer to Canute. The usual ensign of the Danes was the raven, but Tovi was entrusted with a miraculous cross. He afterwards settled at Waltham, on account of the number of deer, commenced building a church, and confided to two priests the cross: hence arose the name of Waltham Holy Cross. His son squandered his patrimony, and Waltham was afterwards given by Edward the Confessor to Harold. The emblems of religion have been frequently adopted by sagacious commanders, and the Saxon patriotism may have been weakened, under the impression, they were contending with heaven.

BARLING.

BARLING HALL MANOR—ORIGINAL CHARTER, FORMER POSSESSORS—POWER OF INFANGTHEOF & UTFANGTHEOF EXERCISED BY THE DEAN AND CHAPTER—THE ASSERS AS LESSEES—ARMORIAL BEARINGS—GEORGE ASSERS'S DISPOSITION OF HIS ESTATES—MUCKING HALL MANOR—ROBYCHERES AND OTHER FARMS—THE RECTORS—CHURCH INSCRIPTIONS, &c.

BARLING or Berling (in old records Berlinga) is said to derive its name from two Saxon words, signifying a boar and a meadow. The manor of Barling Hall and the advowson of the church (dedicated to All Saints) was granted by Edward the confessor to the dean and chapter of St. Pauls, in whose hands it has remained to this day. The charter concludes with a severe execration against any one who shall be tempted to break this decree, or presumptuously change what has been ordained, places him with the covetous, separates him from the christian flock, and threatens him with the fate of Judas, who betrayed Christ, unless he gives restitution and amends. The anathema with which these deeds commonly conclude, was not more the act of the clergy than of the donor himself, and of the assembled congregation. It was in fact the more especial act of the donor. Prelates Abbots and Barons confirmed the deed each with the sign of the cross; and there was appended to the deed the broad seal of the kingdom. Then the charter of donation was taken into the church and deposited upon the High Altar—a gift of lands not merely to the church but to God—and amid all the sanctions and solemnities of sublime ritual the deed was ratified; with a terrible malediction upon any who should lay violent hands upon

the heritage of the church, or impiously dare to alienate the land. And to this all present answered Amen.

Twelve Manses were confirmed to it at the same time. In 1181 the arable land belonging to this manor was worth 6d. per acre, and where sometimes sown and sometimes pasture 8d., and the marsh 3s. In this marsh, and common or mowing ground was feed for 300 sheep. A mill is recorded to have existed at that period, which answered weekly for one bushel of corn, ground free; and there was keeping for six cows, the profit of each of which was 2s. a year. From this statement we may infer that the Confessor's charter has been broken, altered, or infringed.

In 1253 the dean and chapter increased their property by purchase, Radulphus Cementarius having sold a marsh to Henry de Cornhill for ten marks, and which has since been leased out with the rest of their demesnes. In 1254 Absolon de la Weylate (on St. Cecilia's day) gave certain lands to the same parties. In 1322 the church of St. Paul's made an arrangement with Adam, son of Simon de Barling, ceding to him and his heirs the entire profit of the fishery of the upper part of the stream for ever, upon condition that he should raise a wall partly on his own ground and partly on theirs, to keep the tide from overflowing. It is not very clearly defined from this statement what Simon de Barling's rights really were: it may relate solely to the oyster fishery, or fish in his time may have visited this creek, now unknown: Dabs, Mullet, Plaice, Flounders, Soles, Herrings, and Smelts are now to be had for the catching. The Browning family first acquired layings in this creek in 1743: at the same time Davies, Lodwick, and Kettridge were likewise owners. The total rating of them at that period was £29.

At the present day part of the oyster layings leading from the hall to Potton Island are common grounds,

and being copyhold pay a quit rent of 1s. 7½d. per annum to Barling Hall manor. There is an old parish rate-book existing (now in private hands) very much delapidated, but is so far valuable, as it established the right of the parish to rate these and other layings, which claim had been dormant for some time, in consequence of some compromise being entered into between the owners and the parish, respecting the settlement of apprentices.

There exists very conclusive evidence that the dean and chapter in this parish exercised the power of Infangtheof and Utfangtheof (so called in Anglo Saxon), or the right of lords of manors to have a gallows and execute robbers. The privilege conferred was sometimes known as "Furca and Fossa" (the gallows and pit), in reference to the mode of execution, the men by hanging, and women by drowning.

At a small farm called the "Gaol" which (although freehold) pays a quit rent to the manor of Barling Hall, is "a small ancient building of ragstone, about the date of the latter part of the 15th century, with a flat-pointed doorway, and mullioned windows." This, Mr. King (who visited the place in 1865) supposes to have been the Manorial Court-house, and the field upon Mucking Hall called "Gallows Field," corroborates his conclusions. There was likewise from 1719 to a late period, a house rated as "Gallas, Galous, or Galus," the site of which cannot now be identified. He sent an account of this discovery to the editor of "The Essex and West Suffolk Gazette," and "doubts whether another example of an ancient Manorial Court-house exists within the limits of this county."

According to tradition this gallows stood in a field on Mucking Hall, near the foot-path from Barling to Rochford, leading to the wood in Shopland. The place where this was erected is said to have been in a hollow, upon the side of the hill, where the poor wretches could command a view of their native land

once more, before the fatal cart moved forward, leaving them suspended a spectacle and a warning to other criminals.* Old men who have not long since departed could remember Cutts, of Sutton, (who, if living, would be 140 years old) who used to relate that he could remember the posts. The records relating to these things are probably to be found in London. Near this spot used to be a famous spring called Redberry Well, which was in much repute:§ it is now filled up, and the water conveyed to the brook by means of a landitch of pipes. In this field near the brook, a few years ago, were dug up several earthen jars, containing bones.

The lessees under the dean and chapter, are unknown beyond the Assers† who held the lands in the time of Morant. There is a slab in the chancel to the memory of Richard Bateman, "Citizen, and merchant of London, eldest son of Robert Bateman, at one time Chamberlaine and Alderman of London, aged three-score and eleven years, and who departed this life the 20th day of August 1668,"‡ but whether he was connected with the property of the dean and chapter, or related to the Assers, cannot be determined. In an ancient genealogy of the Vassals now before me (preserved by the Wren family) George Asser of South-

* There were serious punishments in vogue in Barling, as late as 1775. When Isaac Inous settled his accounts as churchwarden, "it is directed with the overplus due to the parish, a pair of stocks and whipping post be bought." Stocks, of which a specimen is still extant in Little Wakering, are called the drunkard's pillory. Jeremiah mentions the punishment (which he suffered) chap. 20, more than 600 years before Christ. The great Solon of Athens alludes to them. In our own country the incumbent of Lymington, Wolsey (afterwards Cardinal), for getting drunk at a fair, was placed in them, by the orders of Sir Amias Paulet, a reformer of morals.

§ Green's balloon fell in this bog, about 40 years ago. The National school children were returning in waggons from the anniversary at Rochford, and ran delighted through the fields to witness the novelty.

† The name of Asser is of great antiquity, being borne by the learned monk of St. Davids, who adorned the court of Alfred; was honoured by that monarch's friendship, and became the historian of his life and times.

‡ The monumental heraldry upon Bateman's slab, consists of three crescents, between the horns of each an estoile.

church is represented as having married Susannah Vassal, granddaughter of Stephen Vassal,* rector of Rayleigh. This George Asser, is supposed to be the grandfather of the George Asser who purchased Southchurch Hall, Southchurch Wick,§ and other estates of the Earl of Nottingham, and, if he resided at Southchurch, he was probably a tenant on the estate. Before him little is known. He lies buried beneath an ornamented stone altar-tomb in the churchyard; at the west end is represented an hour glass, surmounted with extended wings, and at the east a death's head with bones; the sides are enriched with the classic acanthus leaf.

The Assers were of the class of resident yeomen, who married and intermarried with the local families. Notices of them are to be found in the register books of Great Stambridge, (one entry in 1626 of the baptism of Susanna, daughter of George Asser). They are likewise to be found in South Shoebury (a George Asser was resident there in 1702), Little Wakering, Hadleigh, Thundersley, Canewdon, and Ashingdon.

John Baptist Rosemond, who was vicar of Barling in 1685, tells us "that he bought the register book for Barling Magna in that year (William Stevens and Thomas Leez being churchwardens); having found upon his admission to the living, that there had been no registers kept for many years, but that he subsequently found some loose leaves." The leaves alluded to by Rosemond are all entries of baptisms, commencing in 1555, and terminating in 1602, with intermissions. From these is the following extract:—"Elizabeth, daughter of George Asser, August 23rd, 1601." We may infer that this George

* For an account of the Vassal family, see Eastwood.

§ Camden, who published his "Britannia" in 1586, describes Wicks as "little dairyhouses;" but Wick is from the Anglo-Saxon "Wic," which simply signifies a habitation where men dwell, and it constantly occurs in the earliest remains of Anglo-Saxon literature.

was father to him buried under the tomb in the church-yard. Upon that tomb is an inscription, to the effect that "George Asser, gent, was there interred 1st May, 1674, æt. 71: and also Susanna, his wife, who died 1st January, 1658, aged 69." Underneath are these lines:—

"Zealous they were for God, true to their friend,
A good example they have left behind,
Yet, when death strikes, he spares nor young nor old,
So live, as that to die thou mayest be bold."

"Vivit post Funera Virtus."

Upon the chancel floor is a slab which records that George Asser, gent., who sleeps beneath, died 17th May, 1683, aged 43 years, and also Abigail, his wife, widow of Thomas Wright, who died April 23, 1686.*

The centre slab records that "George Asser, of Southchurch, died November 28, 1738, aged 63; and Elizabeth, his wife, April 18, 1729." This Elizabeth's name was Higham, of Eastwood, and they were married there January 22, 1694. Upon this slab is a cross engrailed, in the first quarter a fleur-de-lis, crest, a demi-lion, holding between the paws a fleur-de-lis.

Now the Asser's of Barling were not entitled to armorial bearings. § No grant was ever made to them, or to any family of that name. Their descendants do not quarter them. But, when George Asser acquired the estates in this neighbourhood, became a magistrate, and rose in position and influence, he assumed the arms of the family Ashurst, of Cheshire. These arms were engraved among those of the Essex gentry, by Warburton, but it was an assumption of rank to which Asser had not the slightest claim.

The only daughter of George Asser and Elizabeth Higham married the Rev. John Davies, vicar of Barling.

* One would suppose from the spelling, omission of letters, &c., that this inscription was the stone-mason's first attempt with his chisel.

§ The origin of heraldry is conjectural, but it did not arise earlier than the middle of the 12th century. The duty on armorial bearings produced a revenue to the British crown last year of £62,957.

The third slab in Barling chancel, after recording the death of Mrs. Davies, tells us that Asser, son of Thomas Drew, Esq., and Elizabeth Asser, his wife, (of Fitzwalters in this county), died 3rd April, 1750, aged two years. No mention is made on this tomb of Davies. The materials relating to him are very slender. He appears to have constantly resided at the vicarage-house, for which he was rated in 1735 at £6, (mention is made of James Sheepshanks, curate in 1743, and Charles Cheriton, in 1748.) He seems to have paid his father-in-law considerable deference. At all parish meetings, when George Asser was present, he gives him precedence, and his signature is first; whilst Davies signs not as chairman, but vicar, amongst the parishioners. That Asser's will met his approval, seems evidenced by the fact, that Asser Vassal became his tenant at the Hall upon the death of his father-in-law, and continued so for a long period.

The slabs of the Asser family have been rearranged during the recent restoration, but the reader must bear in mind, under these circumstances they do not always indicate the place of sepulture. In this instance the slabs of Mrs. Davies and Bateman have changed places. At first they were ignominiously thrust from the chancel, and placed upon the floor of the nave, but upon representations being made to their representative, at the suggestion of the author and others, they have occupied again the post of honour. Elizabeth Asser, the daughter of Davies, was married in May, 1746, to Thomas Drew. Their descendant, George Asser White Welch, now enjoys those portions of the estate not alienated.*

A memorial of the Assers, said to be appertaining to him who died in 1683, is still in existence, in the shape of a sentence, removed at the late restoration

* For a further account of the Drew, White, and Welch families, see Southchurch.

from the church. It is carved in relief, in curious old-fashioned letters, upon what was part of the side of an oak pew.* The following is a fac-simile of the original :—



Hints have been thrown out to the effect, that this carving should be preserved in the church, as a relic of the past, and fixed as heretofore, as its removal from the parish, where alone it is interesting, would probably sooner or later lead to its destruction and loss. At present it awaits the disposal of Captain Welch, who has a taste for antiquarian pursuits.

Barling Hall Manor House was accidentally burnt down about 45 years ago, after a court dinner. The present house was erected partly from materials of the old house at Kent's, in North Shoebury. Looking at the size of the farm, it is far beneath the requirements of any tenant desiring a residence.

Mucking Hall is a small manor, so named from an owner or occupier. John de Mockyng, who held lands in Horndon, and died in 1362, is supposed to have had some connection with this place. It belonged to a freeman in Edward the Confessor's reign, and at the time of the survey to Odo, Bishop of Bayeux. This Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, was an excellent improver of demesnes, extending his manor into the neighbouring parishes. One piece of land in Great Wakering, subject to this manor, is called at this day "Golden Acre," from its well-known fertility. Odo's ambition and rapacity were boundless; he had the almost incredible number of four hundred

* The innovation of pews, or as some have termed them closets, began to supersede open benches, as nearly as can be determined, about the year 1602 or early in the 17th century. In many places the ancient open benches were long left for the use of the poor, in the remote corners of the church, and here and there in this Hundred, they may still be seen, affording very beautiful examples of carved finials.

and thirty-nine manors in seventeen counties. He was on his mother's side, half-brother to the Conqueror, who created him Earl of Kent, and appointed him chief of the palace. He was tempted, owing to a prophecy that an Odo should be pope, upon the death of Gregory VII, to aspire to that dignity.

He purchased a palace at Rome, and was preparing for his departure to the holy city, when William, accusing him of neglecting his duties, arrested him A.D. 1082, as Earl of Kent, confiscated his treasures, deprived him of all his estates in England, and incarcerated him. He regained his liberty upon the death of William, but conspiring against Rufus, in favour of his eldest brother Robert, his designs were defeated by the sagacity of the king; and, although his life was spared, he was finally banished from the kingdom. William was enabled to suppress this rebellion the more easily, by holding out to the native English hopes of more favourable treatment.

In Edward IV's reign Robert Fitz-Symond held this manor; his daughter Joane was the wife of Robert Tymperly. Thomas Wiseman died in possession of this, and a parcel of land called "Taylors" in 1580. In 1630 Dionysius Palmer was owner: Mary, wife of John Wakering, and Catherine, wife of John Wiseman, were his daughters and co-heirs. This estate afterwards belonged to Sir Francis St. John, Bart., and then to Sir John Bernard, his son-in-law. At his death he was succeeded by his son Sir Robert Bernard, Bart., of Brampton Park, Northamptonshire. The late Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrowe, eldest daughter of Arthur, first Earl of Gosford, sold it by private contract to the present proprietor, James Tabor.

The Vassals were tenants here for a long period, embracing the greater part of the last century. Tradition speaks of an old mansion in George Vassal's time, with a fine old oak stair-case, wide enough to

drive his waggon up. This edifice was demolished by order of a steward, who was superseded, and with a view to economy, a house of limited dimensions was built, which has lately undergone considerable improvement.

George Vassal had in his possession, to the last day of his existence, a certain shilling, which was the means of saving his life. The house being attacked by robbers, on horseback, supposed to have come from the neighbourhood of London, one of the villain's knives was thwarted by the coin. One robber was fired at as he passed through a small door or loop-hole, and was dragged away and supposed to have been buried at the rear of the house, as a skeleton was discovered many years afterwards. The house was again attacked by burglars during his wife's widowhood; and this time the rascals underwent the penalties of the law.

Vassal had the reputation of being wealthy. He is buried in the church-yard, with the following inscription upon his grave-stone:—

"Sacred to the memory of George Vassal, gent., who, not less distinguished for the serenity of his temper than beloved for the benevolence of his affections, and for the liberality of his manners, having long enjoyed that ease and tranquillity which nothing but conscious integrity can procure, and having discharged the duties of social life both to his own honor, and the satisfaction of his friends, died universally regretted on the first of March, 1773, aged 73."

"Ye, who by chance or contemplation led,
Approach these sacred mansions of the dead,
Behold this awful shrine, and drop a tear,
For know, the friend of man is buried here."

With respect to the smaller estates in this parish, "Ropers," in 1719, was George Asser's, and at his death became the property of his granddaughter. In 1800 it was sold at the Ship Inn, Southend (then kept by Fairchild), by Prickett, auctioneer, of Highgate, to Thomas Cook (who died in 1807)

for £800. Barton Shots was then planted with wheat, and, as usual at that period, the crop paid the greater part of the purchase money. The house and farm buildings narrowly escaped destruction a few years afterwards, through the then prevalent system of burning foul stubbles. Cook left this property to his eldest daughter, Eliza, who became the second wife of Thomas Swaine,* M.D., of Rochford.† At her death, in 1837, it was sold to Edwin Sumner, who disposed of it during his lifetime (reserving a lease) to Thomas Hudson, the present owner.

"Peacocks," consisting of a double cottage and a field, belongs to a daughter of Dr. Swaine.

"Robycheres or Robjons"§ (on the court roll) was the property of John Robjohn in 1719; he likewise held the "Vickeridge" and Trumpions. The name as it is now spelt, Robjent, is an ancient one in this neighbourhood, and can be traced in the Prittlewell and Barling registers and books for centuries, under various forms of spelling. In this parish, amongst the register leaves preserved by Rosemond, is the baptism of "Johne, daughter of Living Robjohn," in 1560; and in 1601 occurs the entry of the baptism of "Frideswide or Friswith," daughter of Richard Robjohn. Friswith is a common name in Essex, from the Teutonic, signifying "peace—strength," or "strong in peace." Frideswide was the name of an

* The name of Swaine or Sweyn is of Scandinavian origin, and was common in Iceland and Denmark. Some of the Sea Kings bore this nomenclature. It is still found in the English language, as a termination, as boatswain, cockswain. Dr. Johnson gives a very different version of the word Swain, representing it to mean a simple country clown: this seems a corruption of the original meaning, for Swain no doubt formerly conveyed a notion of a noble and commanding nature, but appears to be applied to a country boor in derision, as he is commonly supposed to be behind the inhabitants of towns in acuteness and intelligence.—In support of this view, read Spenser's poems. Pope and Harte have adopted a different construction from Shakspeare, who really can be interpreted as stated.

† Dr. Swaine died in 1828. He and his wife, Eliza, are interred in a vault in Barling churchyard.

§ Robjohns was held by William Cripps in 1721, and rated at £4.

Anglo Saxon saint. All names commencing Fred, Frid, and Freder, signify "peace." There are seven acres, one rood, twelve poles of this land, for which Wren gave £290 in 1800: it now belongs to Thomas Hudson. Tradition speaks of a road from this property, to Harveys, belonging to the same person; in fact, there are those alive who can well remember such indications, through the Dean and Chapter land. "Harveys" was so-called from an occupier, who is buried in Great Wakering church-yard, with a monument at the east end of the chancel.

"Walkers" was formerly the property of George Asser, and was tenanted by George Vassal, (the rate being £17). It is copyhold of the manors of Barling Hall and Mucking Hall. It was sold in 1800 to Thomas Cook for £565, who bequeathed it to his daughter Frances, the wife of James Phillips. At her death in 1833, Thomas Butler, of Witham, became the purchaser for £1100; and, being again brought into the market in 1852, was knocked down to Mark Beauchamp Peacock, the Solicitor to the General Post Office, for £1630. His son now enjoys it.

"Burtons" (formerly called Ponds) is so named from Robert Burton, who came into possession in 1729, and died in 1750. His son John afterwards had it; and, in 1803, William Burton was owner. That portion lying in Barling was rated from 1719 to 1790 at £13: this seems almost incredible, but the rate books prove it for seventy-one years. These books are in the last stage of decay, having been taken from the parish chest into private keeping. This chest, when the author viewed it, contained about six inches of mould and dust. The oldest book is in the best state of preservation, and it shows for five and thirty years, beginning at 1719, that the rating received very little alteration in any respect. Catherine Burton, a daughter of this house, married Barnaby Shorey, of Southchurch, in 1766. The Rev.

James Salt bought the farm of the last of the Burtons, and intended, had he lived, to have chalked and improved it. Salt bequeathed it to Mrs. Maria Salt, of East Teignmouth, in Devonshire, the widow of his brother, John Salt, with reversion to his nephew, Thomas Salt, a surgeon of Dunmow. This last sold his interest to Samuel Benton, of North Shoebury House, who left it to his son, of the same name and place.

Upon Burtons farm resided, about 25 years ago, an eccentric tenant, who conceived the idea of clearing his field of gleaners by the following stratagem:—He caused the ends of a rope to be attached to two horses, that is, to the head of one, and the neck of the other: he and his servant then mounted, one riding in advance, so that the rope drew high and low, and galloping forward, attempted to surround the followers of Ceres: but perceiving the drift of the attack, most of them fled, and got upon a bank. The farmer and his man were saluted with the most opprobrious epithets. One of Eve's daughters refusing to quit the field, was entangled and tripped up. A summons against the farmer was issued, and the result was a pecuniary fine, increased by the supposition of the complainant that she was about to become a mother, which afterwards proved groundless.—The farm is remembered at this time for its abominable culture, and the size and celebrity of its thistles, some of which were used for walking sticks.

"Rudkins or Rutkins" was left by Mr. Salt, in the same way as Burtons. It now belongs to his nephew's family. Salt bought it of Mrs. Royce, of Woodham Mortimer Lodge.

"Trumpions" was formerly the property of George Asser, and tenanted by George Vassal. It was sold in 1800 to Daniel Phillips (whose second wife was Mary White) for £500. John Parsons, of Foulness, is now the owner, having acquired it by marriage with Mr. Phillips's daughter Charlotte.

"Bays and Wallets" (arable, two acres, one rood, twenty-four poles), adjoining the road leading from Barling to Little Wakering, was sold in 1800 to Mr. William Meakens, of Habathalls, for £75. This was added to some property he possessed near the vicarage, upon which was a residence, which his son James Meakens afterwards enlarged. It is now in the Hilliard family.

The farm, now called the "Jail,"* but in the old deeds Barbours and Spotylls, otherwise Coal farm, and in the rate books of the last century Hawkers, was the property (*circa* 1700) of Edward Hawker,† of Much Baddow, who left a son and heir, Edward, whose wife was Elizabeth Hall. This Edward Hawker left three daughters co-heiresses. One of them, Anne, married the Rev. Charles Cowley, of Chignal Saint James, in Essex, who left an only daughter, Honoria Mary Cowley, who became the wife of the Rev. Thomas Clarke, of Westbury, Buckinghamshire. A hatchment of the Hawkers is extant in Great Baddow church. This farm, which was then tenanted by Daniel Phillips,§ was purchased by him at the New Ship Inn, Rochford, in 1805, for £1710, (the auctioneer being Robert Baker). At the death of Mrs. James Phillips (his son's wife) in 1833, it was sold to Mr. Kernot for £1530. In 1725 it was tenanted by "Jareymiha Brabey or Bravery," and John Cause held it previously to Mr. Phillips. To account for this farm, which had long been noted for its fertility, receding in value, a potash‡ manufactory was in existence at the time of Mr. Phillips's purchase, the exhausted ashes of which, called "Ash lip," after the alkali has been withdrawn, is a capital

* This farm pays a fee farm rent to Barling Hall manor. As a general rule they were Crown lands originally. A fee farm rent is recoverable, if not paid, or even demanded for any number of years, as the law knows no limit for Crown rents.

† Hawker had an estate in Foulness. (See Morant).

§ Daniel Phillips died in 1814, during the great frost. The body being frozen, and the roads blocked up by snow, he was not buried until three weeks after death. He was a man of great size, and his coffin is immense.

‡ For an account of potash manufacture see Rochford.

fertilizer. The ruins on this property have before been alluded to. During some repairs consequent upon Mr. Kernot's purchase, executed by Isaac Francis, carpenter, some human bones were dug up, during the construction of a stable. No inquest was held, but they were accounted for in a way, unconnected with antiquity. The head was missing, and old gossips remembered the disappearance of a boy, whose age answered to the size of the skeleton, and whose death, it was rumoured, was caused by unfair means. The place where the remains were found was under the whiting shed, where formerly stood a pigstye.

"Baldwins" was farmed in 1730 by John Lodwick, who was overseer in 1738, and lived at Ropers, and in 1746 was owned and occupied by a Mr. Richardson; in 1784 Thomas Sumner was owner; in 1804 Thomas Frost Gepp. The late Thomas Butler, of Witham, bought it (*circa* 1840), at whose death it was sold in 1852, to James Tabor. It is copyhold, and subject to quit rents and heriots. Tradition says that the Poor-house stood upon this farm before the Church-house was used for that purpose. The greater portion of this farm abounds in springs, with gravel. In one field grows the "Bogle" (a species of wild marigold), very difficult of extermination; and near the sea wall can be traced the remains of an old decoy: a hard-way exists leading to Brimstone Saltings, where there is a mound. These saltings are said to have formerly been part of Baldwins, but now belong to Little Wakering Wick. Tradition says that the owner of Baldwins was Steward of the Wick, and upon a dispute, surrendered the territory to retain the stewardship.

An aged man, just deceased, who lived at High House (at the three-wont way), then belonging to Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Nicholds, could remember when labourers used to board and lodge in the farm

houses, and commonly use wooden trenchers at their meals, and when pewter, burnished like silver, was used upon greater occasions by the master. Chimney jacks were in use for roasting: beer was drunk by farmers instead of wine: malt was 3s. 6d. per bushel; a sack of which could be had in exchange for a sack of barley.

"Adcocks" formerly belonged to Nightengale, then to Adcock, and is now the property of George Wood. The right of way to it is through Walkers. A cottage formerly stood in this field, a good sample of the residences of the poor in the olden time: it was upon the side hill, with a brick floor, and springs oozing through. This description of house was a certain source of profit to surgeons under the "case" system. The family that last inhabited it were generally ill with fever and ague, and like true Britons, stuck to it; finding however, that out-door relief was likely to be stopped, they wisely abandoned an untenable position.

"Blewhouse," the residence of Mr. Hudson, is mentioned in 1719, when it was rated at £2 10s. Its owners are not clearly defined, but it was tenanted with Walkers in 1755 by George Vassal. There was formerly a small marsh belonging to it; and the meadow in front was at one time part of Walkers. The front rooms were erected by the late Mr. James Phillips. To prevent mistakes on the part of antiquaries, it is as well to state that the stone wall dividing the garden and meadow was erected from the surplus materials, after the recent enlargement of the church-yard.

The "Dam field" and cottages belonged to Morebeck in 1744, and subsequently were in the Sumner family, and now in that of Asplin.

"Cotts" was so called from John Cott, an owner in 1721. There is an ancient house near the church, now belonging to this property, with the date

1675 upon it. It was formerly much more antique in appearance than at present, with a projecting roof, a porch in front, and cellars underneath. Some have thought that this was formerly capitular property, but there is no evidence to support this assumption. Tradition says it was a public house previous to the Goat ale-house, and as in the old rate book a place called the "White Elm," was rated from 1723, to a late period in the last century, we may reasonably conclude that this is the spot. It was formerly called Catteridges.

"Bolts" formerly belonged to Joseph Knapping, of Beauchamps, and then to John Lambert, his son-in-law. It then reverted to Joseph Knapping's grandson, who sold it to the present proprietor, Joseph Reeve.—There was a farm formerly called Tyrells, held for many years by Stephen Peverill.

"Kings Mead" and cottages, near the Jail Gate, are the Rev. S. B. Smyth's property. They formerly belonged to the Brown family, who succeeded John Keys.

"Savorys," near Baldwin's Gate, belongs to T. M. Gepp.

"Crouchmans," in 1836, was in the possession of John Gladwell. It was sold by his family to Thomas Hudson.

"Suttons" is owned by Mrs. Eleanor Bowmer, of Stepney, and was left to her by her father, Michael Sutton. There are several initials and dates on this house, 1723 and 1724, apparently connecting Aaron Cause with it. An old brand with A.C. on it has been upon the farm from time immemorial.

Very little is known respecting the vicars of this church previous to 1662, as some of the register books, belonging to the Dean and Chapter, were burnt in the dreadful fire of London in 1666. But in the parochial register book it states, that "William Philips, vicar of Barling, was buried January 9th,

1586; John Ellerton, A.M., who succeeded, was buried in 1601; Robert Witham Vic, who probably succeeded Mr. Ellerton, was buried October 15th, 1634." As Newcourt and the succeeding memoirs do not agree, I give the account as found in the former: "Robert Edwards in 1662; Henry Cooks in 1668; John Meridale in 1676; Raymund Gaches in 1679; John Baptist Rosemond in 1684." Here Newcourt ends, but the Parish Registers inform us, that Thomas Case, A.M., succeeded at Rosemond's death in 1695. This Case was likewise rector of Southchurch, where he is buried: he died in 1730, and was succeeded by John Davies, who died in 1750. Henry Evans, A.M., next appears upon the list: he died in 1793 at "Byletts, near Leominster, in the county of Hereford." From the death of Davies until 1788, a period of 38 years, William Owen served as curate, who was likewise vicar of Shopland and Little Wakering, at which latter place he was buried.

James Salt, M.A., minor canon of St. Paul's cathedral, was collated November 1st, 1793. His usual dress consisted of corduroy knee breeches, grey worsted stockings, (no gaiters,) and low-shoes with buckles. Salt had several pursuits besides divinity. He was fond of farming, and knew something of physic. The present drawing-room at the vicarage was his granary, and he had a little surgery. He was a herbalist, and consumed large quantities of dandelion, and drank largely of peppermint tea. His emetics, compounded by himself, and administered to his flock for ague and other complaints, are not forgotten to this day. With regard to farming, he was a liberal employer, and, like a certain bishop, is said to have derived some of his inspirations from his academical reading. He alarmed the whole neighbourhood one dark night, by sowing mustard seed in the field opposite the vicarage house by the aid of lanterns, to prevent the ravages of the turnip fly. Numbers hur-

ried to assist in putting out, what they thought was a fire, when the vicar was discovered at work (with his servants), who told them to go home for a set of idiots. He died in 1824, and was buried in the church, where a slab records the same. In his will (see Burtons) after providing for his relatives, he left £100 amongst twenty families in the parish; and to his groom, Thomas Pitcher, £200; and to John Winterflood, his bailiff, £100.

Henry John Knapp, minor canon of St. Paul's, succeeded him in the living. He in his turn gave way to John Townshend Bennett, a memoir of whose career will probably be acceptable to our readers.—The Rev. John Townshend Bennett was son of the Rev. Dr. Bennett, of Highgate. At the early age of 17 he held a commission in the 2nd Royal Regiment, Tower Hamlets Militia: this bears date 25th May, 1810. He afterwards held a commission in the 77th Regiment of foot, and served under the immortal Duke. This commission bears date May 10th, 1811. It is said that he obtained the rank of lieutenant. He was at the siege of Badajoz, in Picton's fighting division, which, under a feint, first entered the place. When in the vein, Bennett would graphically describe the assault. For his conduct upon that occasion he had a medal, and was the only clergyman (the chaplain-general Greig, excepted) who wore one at the Duke of Wellington's funeral. The deprivations he suffered during his campaign made him resign his commission. He married, and entered at St. Peter's College, Cambridge, where he proceeded to the degree of B.A. and M.A.; he was ordained deacon in 1819, and priest, by the Bishop of London, in 1820. For many years he was curate at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, and lecturer there to the end of his days. He was made minor canon of St. Paul's in 1830, and sub-dean in 1850. Upon resigning the vicarage of Barling, in 1853, he became rector of St. Mary, Aldermary,

and St. Thomas the Apostle, in London. He held these at his death, which took place at Peckham Rye in November, 1858. He was buried in the vaults of St. Paul's Cathedral, under the litany desk, with full choral service, the present rector of St. Botolph, Aldersgate-street, the Rev. C. F. Webber, intoning the office. He was much respected, and as his remains passed through his parishes to their resting place, a general closing of shops testified to the feelings of his flock.

Upon the resignation of the vicarage of Barling by Bennett, his place was supplied by Samuel Buxton Smyth, M.A., in 1854, who had formerly been curate, and was upon terms of great friendship with him. He married Caroline, the seventh daughter of the Rev. John Nottidge, whom he has recently lost. Mr. Smyth is a gentleman noted for his hospitable character, and is descended from some of the best families in Yorkshire: his grandfather, Francis Smyth, of New Building, was a F.A.S., and deeply read in the antiquities of Yorkshire, and his patience and research in tracing pedigrees was remarkable: his own, on vellum, was of great length and beauty. The family deduce their descent from Sir "Michael" Carrington, standard-bearer to King Richard I., in his expedition to the Holy Land: his descendant, John Carrington, Esq., was forced to fly from England (probably during the civil wars between the houses of York and Lancaster) and changed his name to Smyth. He died in the reign of Henry VI., in 1446; his wife was "Miliscent," only daughter of Robert Laynham by his wife Miliscent, daughter and heiress of John Hende, Lord Mayor of London. His son Hugh* resided at Cressing Temple, and afterwards at Witham, where he died in the reign of Henry VII. His son was Sir John Smyth, First Remembrancer, and after-

* Thomas, a brother of Hugh, was buried in Eivenhall Church in 1504 where his tomb is yet extant. His son, Sir Clement, lived at Little Baddow Hall, which property was sold by his son John in 1596.

wards one of the Barons of the Exchequer, so constituted in 1540. The eldest surviving son of Sir John Smyth married for his second wife Mary, only daughter of Thomas Nevil, of Holt, in Leicestershire. His son, Sir Thomas, was knighted and resided at Holt, upon the domains of his mother: he assumed the name of Smyth *alias* Nevil. His third son, Thomas, settled in Yorkshire, and died at Asselby, in 1642. His second son, Thomas, born in 1619, was fined for knight in the reign of Charles I., and died in 1650. From him descended Francis Smyth, who died at Wigginton, and was buried in the church of Kirkby-under-Knoll; his wife was "Phebe," daughter and heiress of Samuel Buxton,* of the city of York. Francis Smyth, F.A.S., their son, of New Building, in Yorkshire, married Mary, only daughter and heiress of Joseph Plumer, merchant of Oporto, descended from the Plumers of Sunderland Hall, near "Barwick." His eldest son was Joseph Smyth, of New Building, vicar of Kirkby Moorside; he died March 25th, 1826. He was father of the Rev. Samuel Buxton Smyth, who resigned the living of Barling in 1863, and accepted the rectory of East Hanningfield, where he has built a large and commodious rectory house.

New Building or New Bigging (formerly styled Kirby Knowle Castle) is situated in one of the most lovely and picturesque spots in Yorkshire. You have a view across the country for nearly 50 miles, and the old mansion is a most interesting one. It comprises

* This Samuel Buxton was brother of a John Buxton, who married Elizabeth Rokeby, niece of Sir Thomas Rokeby, one of the Judges in the reign of William and Mary. The property of New Building, near Thirsk, in Yorkshire, was derived through the marriage of one of the Rokeby's into the Danby family. Milcah Rokeby, formerly Danby, was a very learned lady, and lived to a great age. Some of her writings were preserved in the Library.

Another Sir Thomas Rokeby was high sheriff of Yorkshire in the reign of Henry IV, and with the posse comitatus, defeated and slew the Earl of Northumberland, at Branham Moor, in his last attempt to dethrone the king.

nearly fifty apartments, and there are vaults below, from one of which issues a subterranean passage. There is likewise a secret room, with a staircase, in the thickness of the wall. These hiding places were frequently used by Roman Catholic priests, in the reign of Elizabeth.* Before the Smyths obtained New Building they lived at Sutton Hall, in the village of Sutton-under-Whitstone-Cliff, in the vale of Mowbray. In the library at New Building, began by Judge Rokeby, and ending with Francis Smyth, were about 5000 volumes of the choicest works and manuscripts. They were dispersed in 1856 by sale. One of the rooms was adorned with portraits of King William and Queen Mary, presented by themselves to Judge Rokeby. These are now at Hanningfield, together with the family portraits. Those of King William and Queen Mary were painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

The Rev. Frederic Aubert Gace succeeded Samuel Buxton Smyth in the living of Barling, and still holds it. The barn and farm buildings, which stood behind the house, were burnt down soon after his accession, and new premises have been erected opposite the vicarage. The house was improved by Mr. Smyth, money having been borrowed for that purpose, which remains at present a charge upon the living.

Isaac Rogers, who shuffled off this mortal coil in 1860, was church clerk for 53 years, and at Little Wakering for nearly the same period. His intonation was musical, although singular (some regarding it as a peculiarity arising from the construction of the roof of his mouth), pronouncing Amen, R-r-r-r—m-o-n.

The tithes of this parish were commuted in 1839, and apportioned by Mr. Charles Matson, of Great Baddow Park, who however did not give general satisfaction. The acreage amounts to 1258 acres 3 roods 18 poles, exclusive of public roads and waste. Matson

* For a further account of New Building and the Smyth family, see the *History of the Vale of Mowbray*, by William Grainge, printed 1859.

rated it at the net or rateable value of two thousand three hundred and ninety-seven pounds, seventeen shillings and six-pence. This was raised in 1862 to two thousand nine hundred and thirteen pounds. The rating in 1732 amounted to £621. The population increased from three hundred and seventeen in 1835 to three hundred and fifty-four in 1861. The rectorial tithes were commuted at £350 per annum, and the vicarial at £176. There are besides twenty six acres, one rood and sixteen poles of vicarial glebe land, and a sum of £20 per annum used formerly to be paid by the tenant of Small Ports Farm, in Foulness, to this vicarage. This does not appear to be of the nature of tithe, as no mention is made thereof in the commutation of Foulness, but upon the sale of Small Ports to Mr. Andrews, Mr. Welch the vendor has undertaken that obligation. The origin of this payment is known only to those interested. This vicarage pays £1 16s. for tenths, yearly, to Queen Anne's bounty office: it is styled there Great Barling. The sum of £13 8s., being land tax on the vicarial glebe and tithes, is payable annually to the vicar of Horndon-on-the-Hill. This was purchased by a grant from Queen Anne's bounty (during the incumbency of the Rev. James Salt) in 1799, and a terrier is preserved in the parish chest of Horndon, dated 1822. It is signed by Salt, who was vicar of both places.

The church has recently undergone extensive repairs, and has been re-seated throughout. The Incorporated Society for building churches granted £30 towards re-seating, upon condition that one hundred and forty-two seats numbered 1 to 14 and 24 to 31 be reserved for the use of the poor. A marble reredos has been erected upon the wall behind the altar, and the floor paved with encaustic tiles. The fence surrounding the church-yard, composed entirely of stone, is repaired at the expense of the parish, and

an additional piece of ground has been inclosed, preparatory to being used for burials. This ground includes a portion of the waste, and the site of an old parish house, formerly the "Goat ale-house." The house was lately used as an infant school, previously to which it had been the workhouse. The rent arising from it used to be applied to the repairs of the church. This was the reason why it was not sold at the time of the enactment of the new Poor Law. The house and garden were subject to a quit rent of 1d. per annum to Barling Hall manor, and 1s. tithe to the vicar. This inclosure has not yet been consecrated. A stable and shed have been erected in the lane leading to the hall, and the money for these various purposes has been borrowed from the Essex Provident Society, to be repaid by instalments. Judging from the size of the sacred edifice, we may surmise that Barling formerly possessed a larger population than at present, although during the last century it was smaller than that now existing. This can be proved from the books, as the cottages were rated, and were fewer than those now existing. Pantile House was rated in 1719.

The churches in this hundred that are contiguous to the water, are much larger than those in the interior, probably from the population chiefly residing near the coast. During the repairs a sepulchral slab, of late 15th century work, was found in the north aisle, having an incised cross, the stem and arms cusped, which has since been relaid. Upon digging down a few feet, only bones were found thrown promiscuously together, thus leading to the conclusion that the grave had been previously opened. In the course of removing some brick-work from the west window in the same aisle, two figures were discovered, viz., the Virgin and Child, and an image of S. Dominic holding a book, with a rosary, composed of ten beads attached to the girdle. They were without

heads, but the wire loops, used to secure them in their niches, are still extant. Their habiliments are gilded and ornamented: the Virgin's with fleurs-de-lis. They are now in the vestry. The chancel belonging to the Dean and Chapter was for a long time in a dilapidated condition. From 1839 to 1848 the rural dean, the Rev. Charles Chisholm, repeatedly called the owners' attention to their duties without effect, and his remarks and censure are severe, as regards the lessee. Without going into details, partial and inadequate repairs were at length executed, but the walls remained in a hideous state, until the parish setting an example, shoulders were again put to the wheel, and further exertion was made.

The church itself is a spacious edifice of the "Perpendicular" period, built of Kentish ragstone. It comprises a nave with north aisle, a chancel, formerly leaded, with a sacristy on the north side, and a west tower embattled. In the south chancel wall is a piscina, and in the north wall a credence table, where the bread and wine is to be placed, before being put upon the altar for consecration. The arches that divide the nave from the south aisle are of the 15th century, sustained on fluted octangular columns, with moulded capitals. The font is of the fifteenth century, but has a rude date subsequently cut upon it, June 1585; its sides are panelled and the shaft buttressed. The pulpit is a handsome one of the 17th century, of carved oak ornamented with flowers and foliage. There were formerly three bells,* one is gone, another cracked, and bound with iron hoop, which conceals the name of the maker. It has upon it "W.S. and J.S., 1666, churchwardens." The remaining one "John Dier made me."

The stairs leading to the Rood-loft were lately discovered. Upon this loft was formerly the rood or

* Bells were first used in churches about the year 400, by Paulinus, bishop of Nola. BEDE informs us that wooden rattles (*Sacra ligna*) were used in Britain before their introduction into this country.

crucifix, and upon either side of it figures of the Virgin Mary and St. John.*

Upon the floor of the church are two slabs, one records that Richard Hust, of this parish, died February 9th, 1759, aged 84 years, and Mrs. Sarah Robgent, his wife, died September 14th, 1767, aged 50. Upon the other that Eleanor, wife of Robert Hust, of this parish, died 3rd December, 1751, aged 17, also their son George, aged three months.

At the west end of the chancel, (in the church-yard) is the tomb of Robert Cable, who died in 1784, together with two grandsons. The parish books are imperfect for some years previous to this date, but as Anthony Cable held the Hall that year, Robert was probably his father. This Anthony, described in the South Shoebury registers as of Burnham, married Judith Parsons, of North Shoebury Hall, at the former place in 1780. His son was amongst the heroes in the glorious retreat of Sir John Moore, and at the repulse of the French before Corunna. After the death and burial of their Commander, Cable (upon his return home) described the soldiers as wading up to their arms in water to reach the embarking boats. Anthony Cable's monument, composed of wood, has perished.

Here likewise beneath an altar tomb are interred the remains of John Kennett, son of Nicholas and Dorothy Kennett, who died in 1708, aged 35 years.

"A Son most dutiful, a Husband rare,"

"A parent good, who of the poor took care."

The Kennetts had an estate in the parish, and they will be noticed hereafter.

There is an altar tomb of brick, surmounted with a stone slab, which records the death and burial of

* In allusion to John xix, 26. This loft was placed above the screen which divided the nave from the chancel. It was intended as a type of the Christian church, the nave representing the church militant, and the chancel the church triumphant, denoting that all who would go from the one to the other, must pass under the rood and carry the cross.

Jane, wife of William Stephens, of this parish, gent., who died in childbed in 1676, and underneath are the following quaint lines:—

“Spes mihi Christus”

“A Wife, a Woman, Mother, Friend most just,
Who all relations duly did observe,
Lies here sealed up in this bemoaned dust,
Leaving with us her name for to preserve.
Her pregnant womb a joyful issue fills,
Who minutely expects the midwife's hand,
But, death steps in, delivers her from ills.
Oh Mortalls, who attending, still doe stand,
Thus is Shée brought to bed, and rests in peace,
Lying now In an eternal ease.”*

Robert Stevens, of this parish, married Elizabeth Fitz Hew, of Wakering Magna, in 1705. These Fitz Hews have a handsome altar tomb in Great Wakering church-yard, but their residence cannot be traced. A William Stevens died in 1721 and was buried at Barling.

At the south-west corner are seven tombs, most of them belonging to the Lodwick family: one of John Lodwick, who died in 1771, a Jane Lodwick, and Jeremiah Lodwick, an upholsterer, who died in 1730, together with Thomas Lodwick, aged 18 years. One of these tombs records that the wife of William Cripps died in 1766, and another that John Hill deceased in 1737. As these tombs are all arranged together, and similar in construction, these persons were probably related. Hill farmed Ropers, Baldwins, and Crouchmans, in 1720, and was succeeded in the tenancy of Ropers and Baldwins by Lodwick. There is another tomb to the memory of William Cripps, from the style of which, we may infer he was a person of some note. The Cause family have two stones; one to the memory of Aaron Cause, who died in 1771, and John, who died in 1760. John farmed part of the

* An old popular belief exists in Devonshire and Cornwall at the present time, that women dying in childbed are sure of the joys of heaven.

Hall and the Jail, and owned some land in the parish. There are stones recording the death of Martha Carr, wife of Thomas Carr, of Shopland Hall, who died in 1751; Hammond, who probably lived at Pear Tree, as it is called in old writings "Hammonds;" and monuments to Inous, Keys, Dennis, and others.

Amongst the register leaves preserved by Rosemond, is the baptism of Alice Keys in 1555, and notices of several Briefs. These Briefs were collections authorized by Government for divers purposes, such as fires, &c. One is for "New Alresford, in Southampton-shire," gathered in 1690, amounting to 10s.; and another for the Irish Protestants, 14s.

In the "new registry book" the christenings, marriages and burials commence in 1695.

Brown's name occurs	in 1695
Lucking.....	in 1702
Kennett.....	in 1697
Bitteridge.....	in 1700
Cooke*	in 1700
Asser Vassal.....	in 1700
Hust	in 1710
Gilbert Sumner, and Judith Woodward.....	} in 1742
Netherwood	in 1732
Gour (now known as Gower)	} in 1726
Lodowick	in 1726
Griff Williams, curate...	in 1726
Peasy.....	in 1726
Davy	in 1761
Catamole, now Cadmull	in 1761

Amongst the old records preserved in the parish books is an account of a journey undertaken to Chelmsford, by Billericay, in consequence of the bad state of the roads by Battles Bridge. The following signatures are preserved:—That of the Rev. Mr. Simpson, curate in 1755, and those of the following

* One, Hugh Cook, married Elizabeth Lought, of Barling, in 1695, at Southchurch.

magistrates: George Asser, in 1727; Thomas Holt,* in 1730; William Nicholson, in 1745; Charles Tyrelle, in 1730; William Kingsman, in 1742; Samuel Horsmanden, in 1751; Chester Moor Hall and John Lodwick, in 1756; Samuel How and H. Chalmers, in 1769; John Tindall, about the same period; Backhouse Carr and Robert Hust, in 1785; Jeremiah Kersteman, in 1786.

For many years 1s. 6d. was the moderate sum charged for liquor at the parish meetings; but, towards the end of the last century, we find shrub, sugar, pipes, tobacco, beer, brandy, hollands, geneva, veal, mutton, and other "nescarys" duly discussed at the annual Easter dinner, and paid for by the rate-payers. The new Poor Law does not recognise these extravagances. The rates were formerly levied at 1d. per month, and in 1725 the expenses of the Churchwardens and Overseers amounted to £40 per annum. This was about the usual average. County rates were very moderate.

The following is an extract of the expense of burying a pauper in 1749.

" March, 30 day. Payd Mr. Fougison for a corffon and shroud for Willm. Griffon.....	0	11	0
Payd Mrs wegons for Beer.....	0	1	0
Payd John Leccen for laying him out.....	0	1	0
Payd the Berl fees.....	0	7	0 "

"This was reimburst him."

Although burying a pauper seems to have been moderate, litigating and arranging parish differences about him when alive, was quite another affair, and the expenses of removing him heavy. Anthony

* Mr. Holt lived at Rochford Hall, which he bought for Earl Tylney, and had a lease of it, which lease he sold to Mr. Sly, when he went to live in the Isle of Ely to look after the Bedford level. He was auditor to the Duke of Bedford who married Miss Howland of Streatham, whose mother was a sister of Sir Josiah Child, the father of the first Earl Tylney. Holt was a son of the Rev. Thomas Holt and Charity Shirley, of Sussex. These latter were married by Richard Knowles, Esq., justice of the peace, in Cromwell's time. Holt died at the Gore, in the Isle of Ely, February, 1745—6. For a further account of the Holt and White families, see Hawkwell.

Cable in 1784, with a constable, conveyed John Creasy and his wife to Framesden, in Suffolk. "The coach-hire, chaise-hire, and expenses for $5\frac{1}{2}$ days, as y^e bill appears £7 19s. 8d."

In 1792 the state of the church music was under consideration, and an arrangement arrived at with the officers of Little Wakering, when a Bass Viol, and subsequently a Clarionet were purchased, and declared to be the joint property of the two parishes. Barling, in 1799, being dissatisfied with the singing, engaged and paid a blind man from Prittlewell to assist in that exercise. The ancient instruments here alluded to, are still used at Little Wakering church.

The central portion of the upland of Barling parish, belonging to the Dean and Chapter, (divided from Barling Hall proper by the public road) together with the Jail farm, has long been noted for its fertility, and called by some the Garden of the Hundred. Although extremely good, there exists in the Wakerings, Sutton, Eastwood, and Prittlewell, land quite equal to it, and probably superior in some respects. Land springs, requiring deep drainage, are to be found on Baldwins, Crouchmans, Ropers, Cutlers, and Mucking Hall.

NOTE.—Mr. Smyth has lately presented to the Parish of Barling a silver Communion Service, consisting of a Flagon, two Cups, and two Patens. The whole are contained in a chest, upon which is the following inscription:—

" P R E S E N T E D

By the REV. SAMUEL BUXTON SMYTH, M.A.,

Rector of East Hanningfield,

(for above twenty years Curate and Vicar of Barling),

TO

His dear old Parishioners of Barling.

As a token of his sincere love and regard for them,

AND

In remembrance of his beloved wife CAROLINE SMYTH,

who departed this life October 28th, 1866.

July, 1867. 'He that eateth my flesh, and
drinketh my blood, dwelleth in
me, and I in him.' John vi, 55."

SOUTH BEMFLEET.

DANISH FORTRESS—THE MANORS OF THE ABBEY, SOUTH BEMFLET AND JARVIS—FAMILY OF APPLETON—CHARITY ESTATES AND OTHERS—QUALITIES OF THE SOIL—EXTRACTS FROM ARCHDEACON HALE'S ARCHIDIACONAL REGISTERS—NOTICES OF FORMER VICARS—THE CHURCH, &c.

THIS Parish when Morant wrote was called South Bemflet, but within the present century has been known by the name of Bemfleet or Benfleet, which last, the railway company have adopted. In some records it is styled Great Bemflete, and in the parish books Beamfleet. It is parted from Canvey Island by a creek, called Hadleigh Ray, the latter being derived from the French word *rie* or *rive*; *i.e.*, shore, coast, or bank. This was a frequent landing place of the Danes, and one of their chieftains named Haesten or Hastings built a fortification here, (supposed to have been on the downs, above the hill, where the present school-house stands) in which he deposited the plunder of the neighbourhood, and strongly garrisoned it. In the year 894, whilst king Alfred was personally engaged with the Danes at Exeter, it was stormed and taken by Ethelred, ealdorman of the Mercians, Alfred's son-in-law. The spoil consisted of great quantities of gold, silver, horses, and garments. Haesten's wife and two sons were made prisoners, and the Danish fleet captured, and partly destroyed. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle tells us that Haesten was not in the fortress at the time, but was gone out for plunder, contrary to his recent

oaths and promises. The King and Ethelred were godfathers to Haesten's sons, and hostages were in the English monarch's hands, to insure the performance of a former treaty, at which time many gifts had been bestowed upon the unworthy Dane. The great Alfred subsequently restored his enemy's wife and sons, an act which the savage warrior could not sufficiently appreciate.

In Edward the Confessor's reign, part of the parish belonged to the church of St. Mary, at Barking, but King William took it from thence and gave it to Westminster Abbey. Suene held the other part at the time of the conquest; which was formerly possessed by Aluuin, a free man, in the Confessor's reign.

In *Domesday** it says part of this (viz., 1 carucate)† might be recovered,§ which, in later ages, has been accomplished. The parish was afterwards divided into three manors:—the manor belonging to Westminster Abbey; the manor of South Bemflet, and that of Jarvis.

The Manor of the Abbey had its demesnes increased by several donations. In 1353 John Peché gave 100 acres of marsh in Bemflete; Roger Bassett, of Sutton, gave 32 acres of arable, in this parish, and "Rawrethe," and other proprietors followed their example in 1392. At the suppression, the manor and demesnes were seized by the Crown. The Abbey was afterwards converted into a foundation for a Dean and Prebendaries, and King Henry VIII made the manors of Bonvyles and Benflete *alias* South Beymflete part of their endowment. Queen Elizabeth confirmed this to them in 1560, and added at the

* *Domesday Book* was ordered to be compiled by William the Conqueror (being a general survey of the kingdom), in order to ascertain the services and payments in kind and money, which might be exacted by the Sovereign. It was completed in 1086, and took about six years in its compilation. It was executed by Commissioners, called the King's Justiciaries.

† Carucate means (or is so interpreted by the best authorities) any quantity of land which is cultivated by a team.

§ Probably Saltings.

same time the rectory and advowson of the vicarage.

The Dean and Chapter of St. Peter in Westminster sold the manor of the Abbey *alias* South Bemfleet manor, Monkeswyke, Shoreswyke, Hopkeswyke, Sanderswyke, the Rectorial Tithes, and part of a farm called Kent's Hill, to the Rev. John Mayor, rector of Shawbury, in the county of Salop, in 1799; subject to the payment of £2 13s. 4d. per annum to the vicar. The Dean and Chapter sold the above under an act passed for the redemption of the land-tax, which enabled corporate bodies to sell a portion of their estates for that purpose. The Rev. John Mayor resold in 1813, at Garraway's Coffee House, to the representatives of John Perry, of Moor Hall, the manor of the Abbey, and all the rectorial tithes (except those arising from Kent's Hill and Sweet Briars), together with a fee farm rent of £9,* payable by Church Hall manor in Paglesham to the manor of the Abbey. The purchase money was a considerable increase on the sum obtained by the sale under the Dean and Chapter. There is a payment of £30 per annum out of this rectory annually to the organist, and the chancel to keep in repair. Kent's Hill with the rectorial tithes thereon, subsequently became the property of Henry Rosher; and other land, now known as Sweet Briars, with the rectorial tithe thereon, to the Wood family.

The Perrys of Moor Hall,† in the parish of Harlow, were originally a Devonshire family; and a tradition prevails that some of them had emigrated from Limerick, in Ireland. John Perry of Moor Hall, was high sheriff of Essex in 1798, and was owner of a large dock-yard at Blackwall. He was the originator and introducer of wet docks in the eastern part of the metropolis. The first dock of this description,

* This is not paid now.

† Moor Hall is situated (about a mile from the church) in a park, well wooded, with a fine sheet of water. The gardens are excellent.

called the Brunswick Dock, was a spacious wet dock, planned and excavated on his own estate, and entirely at his own expense, in the year 1789. It was completed in little more than a twelve-month, and was capable of containing eighty vessels. Mr. Perry died November 7th, 1810, and was succeeded by his son Thomas Perry, who had been for some time in the East India Company's civil service, Bengal. He married, in 1823, Maria Jane, daughter of George Watlington,* of Caldecot House, Aldenham, Herts, barrister at law, and recorder of St. Albans. He died October 15th, 1833, and was succeeded by his only son John Watlington Perry, who took the name of Watlington upon succeeding to the estates of his maternal grandfather. He formerly represented South Essex in the Conservative interest, and was very popular with his party.

The manors of South Bemflet and Jarvis are those possessed by Suene. They have been frequently in the same hand, but there is a doubt whether they were constantly so. Jarvis Hall† was anciently called North-mayes *alias* Jarvis-hill. South Bemflet Hall formerly stood on the north side of the church. The most ancient owners of this estate after Henry, the descendant of Suene, were a family surnamed De Woodham. William de Woodham, who died in the eighth year of Edward the First, (together with other property) held Clenemans-croft, of Thomas Handlo, by the service of 11lb. of pepper. This family held lands likewise of the manor of Barringtons. The next possessor of this estate upon record was John de Coggeshall, whose descendant, Sir William (of Little Sandford) left four daughters, co-heiresses, the second

* The Watlingtons derive their origin from Sir Robert de Watlington, living in the time of Stephen. One of them, William, was a state prisoner in the time of Philip and Mary; and another, Richard, was five times Mayor of Reading, and died in 1601.

† The boundaries between South Bemflet and Thundersley pass through the house. The remains of the seat of the Appletons are now converted into stables and barns.

of whom, Alice, married Sir John Tyrell, of Heron's. His grandson, Sir Robert Tyrell (of Horndon-on-the-hill), fourth son of Sir Thomas Tyrell, had a daughter, Joice, who brought this estate in marriage to Thomas Appleton, Esq.

These Appletons, of whom a long account of their marriages and descent is to be found in Morant, made a considerable figure in county history, and lived at Jarvis Hall for nearly two centuries. Late researches have proved both Salmon and Morant incorrect in their dates, and in error in assigning the estates. Records, many of which were not accessible in their time, prove this. Morant tells us that "Roger, son of Thomas Appleton, was knighted, and died in 1557." Upon the 19th day of August, in the third and fourth year of Philip and Mary, an indenture was signed (*inter alia*) with Roger Appleton, and Edmund Tyrell of Beches, for the delivery of the Munt family, and Stephen Glover of Rayley, glover, to Bonner's Commissary.* This Glover submitted himself to the church, and signed a declaration, affirming his belief in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, as held by the Roman Church. Henry Appleton† was son and heir of Roger, and married Margaret, daughter of John Roper, of Kent, by whom he had a son, Roger, who succeeded him. This last married Agnes, daughter of Walter Clarke of Hadley. They had five sons, of whom Henry, the eldest, married Faith, daughter of William Cardinal of Great Bromley.

At an inquisition, (the original copy is preserved in Chancery) taken at Chelmsford in the third year

* That is to say, as county magistrates, they made a legal surrender of the prisoners.

† In the year 1563 several of the Appletons united to disafforest their estates. They paid £500 to the Crown for this purpose. The estate included four parks,—Jarvis Hall Park, North Moyes Park, South Bamflet Park, and Leigh Park. The manor of Jarvis Hall contained at that time 6660 acres, and the manor of South Bamflet about 3000. The court for these manors is now held at Jarvis Hall, but that for the manor of the Abbey at a public house in the village.

of the reign of James the First, we find that Henry "Appulton" died in possession of the manor of Bemfleet Hall, and its appurtenances, and that they were worth yearly £4, and that he had purchased it of the Earl of Sussex and others. He held likewise under the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, a farm in South Bemfleet called Hollybones. Bullens (Haynes tenant), and Reades belonged to him, likewise Bawdens marsh in Hockley, worth £2 per annum, North and West Wick, in Canvey Island, being in the parishes of Thundersley and South Bemfleet, and Fatherwick, in the same, a salt marsh called Sporman, worth yearly 20s., and Castlewick, all in Canvey. It speaks of Jarvys-hill as being a capital messuage or mansion house. (It was an Elizabethan structure of red brick). Roger, his son and heir, was 30 years old at the time of his father's decease: he had the same estates, and was created a baronet (the first creation of baronets) in 1611, and died in 1614: he married Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Mildmay, of Moulsham-hall. His son, grandson, and great grandson, all named Henry, succeeded, and lived in eventful periods.

The first of these Sir Henry's suffered terribly for his loyalty to Charles the First. He is enumerated amongst the prisoners at the siege of Colchester, who surrendered to Fairfax, August 27th, 1648: he had his lands sequestrated, a third being allowed him for maintenance. He owed money to Mildmay the cavalier, (who was his fellow sufferer), probably borrowed for the war. He died and was buried at Baddow, three months after the reduction of the former place, probably reduced to straitened circumstances. Upon his death letters of administration were granted to Mildmay, who was the principal creditor. This Sir Henry married Joan, daughter of Edward Sheldon, of Beoley in Worcestershire. He was succeeded by his son Sir Henry, whose name is inscribed second

to a declaration and address signed at Chelmsford April 17th, 1660, of grateful acknowledgement to his excellency, the Lord General Monk, as the means (under God) of affording some hope of a resettlement of this nation, on just and lasting foundations. Sir Henry, no doubt, was influenced by the fact that Presbyterianism was so strong, that on it, in fact, depended the Restoration. He married for his first wife Sarah, daughter of Sir Thomas Oldfield of Spalding, and secondly Mary, relict of Sir Thomas Wiseman of Rivenhall, and died in 1670. Sir Henry (his son by the first marriage) married Mary, daughter of John Rivet, merchant of London, and died in 1680 without issue.

He was succeeded by his uncle Sir William,* brother of the second Sir Henry (the third baronet), and son of the first Sir Henry, the cavalier. Sir William died 15th November, 1705, aged 77, as did his lady Dorothy, daughter of Mr. Hatt, in 1719, aged 84. They had three sons—William, Henry and John, and a daughter—Elizabeth. William and John died during their father's life time. The remains of these last, together with those of Sir William† and his lady, Dorothy, rest under the chancel floor of South Bemfleet church. There is a lamentation inscribed upon the slab of the sons, as if it were foreseen that there would shortly be a termination of the direct line:

"Two Blooming youths, Can you Forbare a Groane,"

"Inclosed, ly Beneath this Marble Stone."

Sir William was succeeded in the title by his son Henry, who died without issue in 1710. The place of his sepulture is not known. His sister Elizabeth

* MORANT is incorrect in stating that he was the son of the last baronet.

† The monumental heraldry upon Sir William's slab in the chancel, consists of a fess engrailed between three apples slipped, leaved and stalked, Appleton, impaling, quarterly, on a bend three chaplets, Hatt, of Orsett, Essex. Crest,—an elephant's head erased, with a snake wreathed about the trunk.

brought the estate to her husband Richard Vaughan,* of Shenfield Place,† who died July 20th, 1728: his wife died in 1726. His son, John Vaughan, married Ellen, daughter of Nicholas Patridge, of Doddinghurst, a considerable fortune, who died in 1730. The estate afterwards came to Charles Richard Vaughan, who died in 1786. (The Honourable John Vaughan is mentioned in the registers of Shenfield who died in 1765). One of the same name (Charles Richard) sold the estate in 1802 to Swan Tabrum, who disposed of it to Abraham Bullen in 1806, who resold it to the Perry's of Moor Hall.

A branch of the Appletons, resident in America, are descended from Samuel Appleton, who emigrated from Little Waldingfield, in the county of Suffolk, England, in the year 1635, where the family had been settled previous to A.D. 1400. He was prompted to this voluntary banishment by religious motives, being of Puritanical principles. The name was formerly spelt Appulton and Apelton, which latter is of Saxon origin, and signifies an orchard. The researches of the American Appletons tend to prove they were of Norman extraction, but derived the name of Appleton from the locality where they were situated, "Appletuna and Appletona" being the names of places, before the Norman conquest.

One of them, Isaac Appleton Jewett, has compiled a book, from family records, displaying great research, respecting the family, and containing a letter from Eben Appleton, who visited South Bemfleet in 1817.

* Vaughan is the name of a fierce clan of Welch marchmen. In the war of the Roses they were devoted to the white Rose, and one of them, Sir Thomas, was Chamberlain to Edward V., at Ludlow Castle. He was seized by order of the king's uncle, afterwards Richard III., and executed at Pontefract Castle.

† Shenfield Church, when visited by the author in 1864, had been restored, and the Vaughan's monuments buried beneath the pavement, thus defeating the researches of the historian in that direction. These practices, without a copy being taken of the inscriptions, cannot be too much reprehended.

It does not appear that the latter was well-up in the history of the South Bemfleet branch, and unfortunately for him, directed his steps to the Rev. Matthew Kaye, who was curate of the parish, and rector of Thundersley. No reliance could be placed upon the stories of his reverence, which were a compound of truth, and fiction, generally after the style of Baron Munchausen. There is no evidence the family ever lived at South Bemfleet Hall, and if they ever held the estate it was as lessees of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, who owned it; yet this poor fellow, Eben, wandered about the remains of that mansion, which he describes as only about one quarter part of its former size,* and never appears to have seen the real family seat, Jarvis Hall, at all. His good friend Mr. Kaye, as he calls him, crammed him with marvellous tales, such as the king in former times paid the Appletons £500 to disafforest their lands (instead of *vice versa*), and that they made immense fortunes by building ships of the trees, and selling them to the Dutch, and that upon pulling down part of the Hall (*circa* 1767,) a large sum of money was found, supposed to have been secreted during the civil wars, and that the four carpenters employed, divided the spoil, decamped north, south, east and west, and were never more heard of. He was likewise told there were several small farms there, (formerly belonging to the Appletons), without owners, and Mr. Kaye seemed to think he had as much right to them as anybody. He stated that the key of the house is transferred as a token of possession. Eben†

* Not a vestige now remains.

† The *Journal de Rennes* lately announced the death in that city, at the age of 71, of John James Appleton, of Massachusetts, and formerly chargé d' affaires for the United States at Madrid and Stockholm, at which latter city he negotiated the treaty of commerce, which still serves as the basis of the relations between North America and Sweden. The deceased was born and educated at Boston. His daughter married to M. Eugène Pinault, deputy mayor of Rennes.

Further information respecting the Appletons may be derived from an inspection of the Life and letters of John Winthrop, published in 1864, and the Winthrop papers, which are amongst the collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

was not much smitten with the place; he remarks the village lies low, and is now a miserable place, and he did not like the land, but felt quite amongst his relations, when he saw the elephant's head on one of their tombstones.

Morant, quoting from Dugdale's History of St. Paul's, tells us that Rich-marsh here, since called Richnesse, was the endowment of a chantry, founded in the Cathedral of St. Paul, the 2nd of July, 1239, by Martin de Pateshull, dean of that church. After the suppression it was granted, in 1549, to John Hulson and Bartholomew de Brokesby, who alienated it the same year to John Preston. Mention is made of a manor existing here, called Le White Halle, and lands and tenements styled Poyntantes in the reign of Henry IV.

"Poynetts," of which there are 198 acres, 2 roods, 33 poles, in this parish, together with a house, is a charity farm, vested in the names of the churchwardens and overseers of Enfield, and (called the Benfleet estate) is the chief endowment of the Free Grammar School of Enfield. It extends into the parish of Hadleigh.

"Little Tarpots land," or East Hanningfield charity land, consisting of 13 acres, 1 rood, 28 poles, is vested in the names of the churchwardens and overseers of East Hanningfield, and (called Church land) the rent accruing therefrom being used for church purposes.

"Badger Hall" is owned by Thomas Williams, and was formerly the property of Thomas Kersy. It is the first farm on the left after passing Hadleigh-house, on the road from Hadleigh to Bread-and-Cheese hill. In the last century it was all woodland.

"Reeds-hill" belongs to J. A. Brown: he purchased this estate of Mr. Nash, of Berkshire.

"Suttons" and "Hadleigh Cross" belong to Daniel Nash of "Woodlands." The family have been occupiers and owners in this neighbourhood for

about a century; they had estates in Hadleigh, Canvey, Rayleigh, and some houses in Prittlewell. The present Mr. Nash's father, Daniel Nash, who died in 1859, built a large residence at Rayleigh, called "Rayleigh Place," and kept a pack of fox-hounds, jointly with Thomas Brewitt of Down-hall, aided by subscription. These hounds were kept at the Octagon-house, near the mount. His grandfather, Daniel Nash, who died in 1832, was forty years resident in South Bemfleet, and a man of considerable importance.

"South Bemfleet Hall," and "Kent's-hill," (the latter originally Dean and Chapter property) belongs to George Rosher of Gravesend, son of Jeremiah Rosher, the owner of the celebrated gardens, named after him "The Rosherville Gardens."

"Sweet Briars," (formerly part of the possessions of the Dean and Chapter) belongs to Jonathan Wood, a minor, and a ward in chancery, son of the late Jonathan Wood, jun., of Hadleigh-hall. It was originally purchased by his great grandfather, Henry Wood, who left it to his son Jonathan, and then to his grandson Jonathan in tail. The last named dying (*vitâ patris*) the farm was sold, subject to the life interest, and then bought out and out by the first Jonathan, who bequeathed it to his grandson. This Mr. Wood, of Hadleigh possessed about a fourth of the village of Bemfleet, besides wharves, and a good part of the river frontage. Some of the houses are very ancient and curious. One, opposite the wharf (which was probably the residence of a Dutchman in former times), has one of the lower rooms painted with landscapes on wooden panels, with an ancient staircase, and an upper room, with painted panels, and a marble chimney piece. The outside of the house has been of figured plaster work, very little of which now remains. This property, (part of which was afterwards taken by the railway company), passed to his son, Jonathan Wood, of

Hadleigh, who also owned property in Hadleigh, Leigh, Prittlewell and Canvey Island.

"Hopes Green" belongs to John Watlington Perry-Watlington.

"Boyces" is the property of Marshall Turner, solicitor, of Lincoln's Inn Fields, formerly of Rochford, a partner in the firm of Comport and Turner. He inherited "Boyces" from his father, Marshall Turner, who lived and died there in 1809, and who purchased it from Captain Woodcock, of the 90th regiment, in 1805, in whose family it had been for many years.

"Hadleigh House" was at one time the residence of Mrs. Martha Lovibond, daughter of Sir Elijah Impey, Chief Justice of Bengal, who bequeathed certain property to Hadleigh for charitable purposes; at another period John Whittle Harvey, banker, of Rochford, whose wife is buried in Great Stambidge church-yard, occupied it; he was brother of Daniel Whittle Harvey, the famous radical politician, who was at one time member for Colchester, and, in his latter days, chief commissioner of the city police. The family were originally from Witham, where the father of these brothers lived and died. In later times G. A. W. Welch occupied it, and it was used for a brief period as a diocesan school. The boundary line between Hadleigh and South Bemfleet divides the porch from the rest of the edifice. It was originally built about 60 years ago by Mrs. Dunlop (popularly called "Lady Dunlop"), but the major part of the mansion, including the frontage, was erected during Mr. Harvey's occupation. In 1822 it was the property of the Rev. G. Hemming, who sold it to the Rev. Sir John Head, Bart., rector of Rayleigh, who at one time was resident, and at whose death it was purchased by Thomas Brewitt, of Down Hall. It has since belonged to a variety of owners: J. L. Ricardo, of the Stock Exchange; Richard Walker, who died there;

- Henry Baker,* son of Dr. Baker of Maldon; and Allen, who sold it in 1864 to Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart., who has enlarged the pleasure grounds. The wall on the north side of the garden is serpentine. Sir Charles was educated at the University of Edinburgh, for the medical profession, and subsequently resided for several years in Australia, where he filled many important public offices, (amongst others, that of Speaker of the Legislative Council, in New South Wales,) and in recognition of his services, he received the honor of knighthood in 1850, and was created a baronet in 1859, being the first Australian colonist, who has been thus honoured. The honorary degrees of D.C.L. and L.L.D. were conferred upon him, by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in 1856. He is married to Sarah Elizabeth, the daughter of Archibold Keightley, of the Charter House, and has one son, Charles Archibold, born April, 1867.

"Great Tarpots," is owned by Major Thomas Jenner Spitty, of Billericay. The family have been connected with it for more than one hundred years. They claim descent from Ambrose Spitty,† who resided at Rettendon, when the Heralds made their last official visitation in 1664. There are entries of the name of "Spittie" in the Bowers registers from 1618 to 1621, and in "1681, Henry Spitty of Rettendon, widower, was married to Sarah Richardson, single woman." It has been traditional with the family, that their ancestors originally came from Wales, and the name is spelt in that Principality Yspitty, Yspytty, or Yspitie, as shewn by the old maps of Denbigh or Cardigan Shires. Thomas Spitty, great grandfather of the major, was a yeoman, who

* Baker sold Hadleigh House in consequence of his wife's death. Her maiden name was Sarah Amelia Hart, daughter of Hart, of Woodham. She died in 1863, aged 41 years, and was buried at Bemfleet.

† The arms of Major Spitty are Sa. a chev. erm. between three lions rampant Arg. Crest, out of a ducal coronet a double plume of eight ostrich feathers Arg.—They are a variation from those granted to the Spittys of Rettendon.

resided in his early days at Great Tarpots, and afterwards at Bowers Hall in Bowers Gifford, in 1754, of which parish he was churchwarden in 1746. He married Hannah* Parker, of Thundersley Hall, Thundersley, daughter of Charles Parker, of Leigh. This Thomas Spitty† died intestate on the 24th of April, 1779, leaving two sons, Thomas and Charles, and by arrangement their father's property was divided between them.

The last named Thomas Spitty married Elizabeth Innott, of Shoreham, in Sussex, whose father§ at one time occupied Leigh Beck Farm in Canvey Island. This Thomas Spitty built Sadlers, in Bowers Gifford, and left that parish to reside at Billericay, where he died about 1824. He left a son, the late Captain Thomas Spitty, born in 1788, who married Mary Anne, the daughter of the Rev. John Jenner, D.D., of Billericay, and Mary Anne, his wife, who was sister of the late Sir John Tyrell, Bart. Captain Spitty left two children, the present Major Spitty, and Mary, now Mrs. Edmund Roberts. She has two children, viz., Cornelia Gertrude Scudamore, and Walter Perceval. The three hatchments in Great Burstead church in the rector's chancel, were put up for the major's mother, grandfather, and grandmother, being Jenners.

* Another daughter of Parkers' married Henry Brewitt, of South Bemfleet, son of John Brewitt, of the same place, who is buried in a vault in the church-yard with others of the family. Henry Brewitt's or "Brewett's" name is on one of the church bells. This family is related to the Brewitts of Rayleigh, Wickford, and Downham, several of whom have attained honourable eminence, the late Thomas Brewitt, of Down Hall, being at one time Chairman of the Rochford Board of Guardians, and his brother John, of Bridge House, Wickford, attaining the same distinction at Billericay.—For a further account of them see Rayleigh.

Parker's sons-in-law, upon consideration of his giving up to them a certain sum each, allowed him an annuity for life.

† After Spittys decease his widow married the Rev. Robert Powley, rector of Bowers Gifford.

§ Another daughter of Innotts married Cannom Barrington, of Fleet Hall, Sutton, brother of Captain Barrington, of Doggets. Cannom died young, and was buried in the nave of Rochford church with a slab over his remains, which has been concealed by the new pavement.

The soil of South Bemfleet is indifferent; around Jarvis Hall and Tarpots it is heavy; in the neighbourhood of Hadleigh House, and Badger Hall, stony with springy subsoil. Upon Reed's Hill there is some good mixed soil, and there are tolerable marshes in the low grounds by Bemfleet Hall.

There are 3056 acres in this parish, a portion of which extends into the island of Canvey. 146 acres, 1 rood, 4 poles consist of roads, waste and water. The rateable value in 1862 was £3969. In 1835 the population was 533 and in 1861 comprised 547 souls, of whom 31 resided in Canvey Island.

The tithe was apportioned in 1840—1 by James Beadel of Witham, but upon an appeal, all differences were adjusted by Samuel Baker and Jeffrey Main. The rectorial tithes belonging to J. W. Perry-Watlington were commuted at £368 per annum. Those on Kents Hill belonging to George Rosher at £78, and those on Sweet Briars, the property of the trustees of Jonathan Wood at £12 10s per annum.

The Vicarial tithes were commuted at the sum of £285 18s. 9d. per annum, and there are 2 acres and 8 poles of Vicarial Glebe Land. Upon this Glebe stands the Vicarage House, erected during the incumbency of the Rev. Henry Robert Lloyd, who was Vicar from 1845 to 1850, who likewise planted the avenue of sycamore trees in the Church-yard. The house pulled down by him, was situate in the garden of the present building, a little lower down the hill, but the original site of the Vicarage was in a croft, of about a rood, called "the heart," adjoining the Church wall on the north side. A house was in existence there according to the terrier in 1610. The present site was an exchange. One of the rooms of the edifice pulled down by Lloyd had linen pattern panelling, brought from Edmund Tyrell's house at Beaches in Rawreth, which was existing in the time of the Rev. John Phelps who preceded Lloyd.

Many years ago, a gentleman who had amassed considerable property in commercial pursuits, resolved to retire, purchase an estate, and enjoy for the rest of his life, his "*otium cum dignitate*," in the country. Hearing of some property to be sold in the neighbourhood of Jarvis Hall, and not relying upon his own judgment, which could scarcely distinguish light stony land from clay, he brought with him to Southend, an estate agent to give sound advice in the matter. Taking a post chaise, they travelled through the fertile parish of Prittlewell, admiring the country and the woods, (Wakering wood was then in existence, opposite Lapwater Hall) and so on towards Hadleigh, where the agent began to shrug his shoulders. Hadleigh common, then covered with furze and in a state of nature, abounding with numerous flocks of geese, and studded with tents of wanderers, appeared to Moneybags a scene of rural felicity, and although the turnpikes were voted nuisances, yet the winding road beyond Hadleigh House was thought charming; but when the view near Jarvis Hall, by the road leading to Thundersley was arrived at, our friend's extacies could no longer be controlled, and his admiration was unbounded. Thoughts of *ague* were dismissed as chimerical, and every object seemed to gratify. Turning to his agent, he exclaimed with rapture, "This is the place, it is delightful, and I should say healthy; I could live and die here." Trusty, who had been musing, now chimed in, and exclaimed, "No chance of dying, for I'll engage many more run away than die; very healthy, very splendid, beautiful, quite entrancing, but if you ask me for advice where to lay your money out, it certainly is not here, upon a soil that never ought to have been grubbed." Upon this, his ardour cooled, the horses heads were turned eastward, and all thoughts of purchase abandoned, after taking a last, long, and lingering look at the delightful landscape.

Old people speak of a villainous intention of murder, concocted at Bowers Gun. The intended victim was Audley, a miller, who had money about him, and stopped there for refreshment. He had a suspicion that some men, who left previously, intended him harm. These men lay in wait for him on Bread and Cheese Hill, and dug in Thundersley Wood, his intended grave, which Mr. Andrews, the tenant of Jarvis Hall, used to point out. Audley, having a presentiment that if he went over the hill that night it would prove fatal to him, fortunately escaped by taking the road through Rushy Bottom Lane, by Tarpots, and round by Thundersley Church.

Cockle, the compounder of the celebrated pills which bear his name, built a cottage or lodge near Reed's Hill, which is called to this day, "Cockle's Pill Box."

The following are extracts from the Archidiaconal Registers edited by Archdeacon Hale,* being precedents in criminal causes, and relate to this parish.

"A.D. 1566. Against the Vicar, because he will not minister in a surplice, and came to the house of Henry Wood, with his bow and arrows, to seek for the said Wood.

1583. Johan, Ellis Mones mayde, skolded and cursed in the church.

1598. William Haynes detected for dancing with minstrells on a green during afternoon service.

1602. Uxorem Collins de South Benflete, detected that she cometh to the church to be churched upon the Saboth daie, came very undecently into the church, without kercher, midwife, or wyves, and placed herself in her owne stoole, not in the stoole appointed, by which she shewed herself 'derisionse.' in coming so like a light and common woman, so that she returned not churched acoo to the book, which she best liked, and saith that in places from whence she came, the use is such, neither did she at any time otherwise.

1612. A complaint against Master Balley,† the Vicar, for that he is not resident, insomuch that sometimes for a month together there is nobody to bury the dead, nor to christen.

* Hale is Archdeacon of London, Master of the Charterhouse, and Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's. A few years ago he edited the Domesday of St. Paul's, giving a particular account of all the manors belonging to the Cathedral from very early times, with copious and valuable notes.

† Newcourt states Bayley resigned in 1610.

1618. Against Catherine Edwards for a slanderer of her neighbourly make-bate, and a common lyer. which if it be not reformed will make much striff."

The following names of Dutchmen are taken from the registers:—"Massingarh, Bigner, Derick, Harmons, Cloyse, Jaiman, and Elibeck."

In the same book is the following entry.—

"To know the season when marriage is out of season. Memento. It goeth out on February 7th, or on Shrove Tuesday, and comes not in again till Low Sunday, then it goeth out again on Rogation Sunday, and continueth out till Trinity Sunday, from which time it is in season till Advent Sunday, then it goeth out till January 13th, and continueth in from then to February 7th, &c.

JEFFREY PHILMEAD* Vicar,"

From the parish books are the following extracts:—

1705. 25s. to be spent at every Vestry held at Easter, and 5s. at any other, and no more.

1721. It was agreed that every Officer who makes a journey to Brentwood and "Ingoat-ston," should be allowed 3s. and no more.

1730. There is an entry of 40s. for the hire and use of two Cows for the year ensuing, for the use of Jacob Lucy.

1735. Twenty shillings was allowed for five ringing days, viz. May 29th, October 11th, October 30th, November 5th, and December 25th."

South Bemfleet and Thundersley formerly had one workhouse in common, near the church-yard, which has been pulled down, and the property sold to George Hilton.

It appears by an indenture in the parish chest, it was usual in Queen Anne's reign, to place out girls as apprentices for a term of years, to learn the business of housewifery.

In 1751 both the overseers were females. (It was confirmed by the Court of King's Bench, and finally settled as law in 1788, that a woman was eligible for the office of parish overseer.)

This church was given, with the manor to Westminster Abbey, by William the Conqueror. The great tithes were afterwards appropriated to that

* Philmead was inducted in 1662.

Osby, and a vicarage ordained, of which they continued patrons, till their suppression, when the latter came to the Crown. Queen Elizabeth granted both to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, who have alienated the manor and sold and secularized the rectorial tithe, but still continue patrons of the vicarage.

Edward Roberts, A.M., rector of Rayleigh, was inducted into the vicarage of this parish May 22nd, 1704, by Michael Harland, A.M., vicar of Hockley, in the presence of John Lowry, churchwarden, Samuel Young, Edward R. Harris, officer of excise, James Lord, parish clerk, and Joseph Turner, constable. Roberts died in October, 1718. There are several memorandums of his in the register books of Rayleigh, one in 1716, for the "better information of his successors, vicars of South Bemfleet, that the vicarage there is endowed with the tithe of hay, wool and lamb, wood, milk and calves, rape and cole seed, hemp, flax, turnips, &c., and that nothing was great tithe but corn, which was taken in kind, and belonged to the Dean and Chapter of St. Peter, Westminster." Roberts was formerly rector of Searby, near Grimsby, in Lincolnshire, and then Proctor for the Clergy of Lincoln in Convocation; he succeeded John Luke, D.D., Arabic Professor in Cambridge. Upon the decease of Roberts the living was bestowed upon John Paget, who dying in 1742, was succeeded by Anthony Cox,* who died in 1771. The following gentlemen officiated as curates during this period:—N. Maund, in 1718; Samuel Asplin, in 1720; Thomas Biddell, in 1773—4; John Beadel, in 1735; Samuel Sampson, in 1736, and Joseph O'Hara, in 1749. The next vicar on record is Thomas Welch, who held the living till 1784. Matthew Kaye was curate from 1785 to 1819, and James Allison from 1819 to 1825.

In bye-gone times, there seems to have been a

* Mr. Heygate in his historical fiction of Sir Henry Appleton, selected the name of Anthony Cox, as the nominee of the Puritans.

difficulty in churches about candlesticks, or probably upon whose shoulders the onus of finding them ought to alight. Allison has been known to mount the pulpit with a tallow candle in his hand, which he held during the sermon; at Rawreth portions of umbrella sticks have been used, and at Canewdon, curiosities in the shape of baked earth are to be seen, probably manufactured by the sexton or clerk. W. Macleod was curate here from 1826 to 1827, when we find G. Swayne in possession of the vicarage. G. B. Hamilton, curate from 1828 to 1830; Edward Nottidge, from 1830 to 1836; W. C. R. Ray, in 1836; John Phelps, vicar in 1837 to 1845: during his incumbency the church was reseated. He was succeeded as vicar by Henry Robert Lloyd, who performed the duties to 1850. He is now incumbent of St. Mark's, Kennington, Surrey, chaplain and nephew to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Upon the resignation of Lloyd, the living was bestowed upon John Aubone Cook, M.A., who held it until his death in 1859. His father was colonel of a cavalry regiment, and at one time resided at Pilgrim's Hatch, near Brentwood, where his son was born in 1811. Cook was Rural Dean of Canewdon. He was buried near the church porch at Bemfleet, and an inscription on brass has been placed to his memory in the church, recording his virtues, a tribute which few more richly deserved. He was a devoted follower of his Lord and Master, and a truly excellent man, one of whom the world was not worthy.

A very interesting memoir of him has been published by the Rev. W. E. Heygate, and no one can peruse it without benefit. During the raging of the cholera in 1854, Cook devoted himself night and day to the attentions his poor people required, waiting upon them day and night, performing the most servile offices himself for the sick. He never went to bed for seven days and nights, and received into his own

window is quite a new insertion in the "Decorated" style, and is filled with painted glass by Clutterbuck, of Stratford. The centre light contains the Crucifixion. The Good Shepherd and the Good Samaritan occupy the side lights. It was erected as a memorial to the late Rev. John Aubone Cook. The porch is a remarkably fine timber structure of the latter half of the 15th century, and one of the very few specimens of the kind which have escaped the ravages of time, modern barbarism, and neglect in this county. The roof is constructed on the hammer-beam principle, the timbers are moulded, and the sides filled with open tracery. It has recently been thoroughly restored. The uprights of this porch are studded with nails, where pole-cats, and other vermin were formerly suspended.

The tower contains a peal of five bells, upon which are the following inscriptions :—

1. C. C. C. P. Churchwardens. W. H. John Hodson made me 1664.
2. Mr. Henry Brewett. Tho^s. Mears, late Lester, Pack & Chapman of London fecit 1790.
3. Miles Graye made me 1676.
4. J. W. H. W. made me 1636. T. W. J. B. C. W.
5. Nomen Magdalene campana gerit melodie.

This last inscription is in old English, with Longobardic initials.

Upon a board in the belfry is the following record :—

"These compleat Peals were rung in the year 1794 by us, Wm. Banbrooke, Jno. Brooks, Jno. Cooper, Wm. Potter and Jas^r. Lane or Jno. Pickering as follows, Old Doubles Kents 12. New Doubles 12. Old Grand ^{or} 15. Fortune 12. New Grand ^{or} 25. Gogmagog 15. Dream 12. St. Dunstons 12. Antelope 15. Hudibrass 12. Four Cambridge delights 14. 15. 24. and 25. London Doubles 132. Camb Journey 15. Chase 15. Two Westminster 12 and 15."

A mural tablet on the south wall of the chancel records the death in 1730 of Bridget, daughter of William Elson, Esq., M.P., and wife of Francis Clerke, LL.D., at one time Chancellor of the "Diocess" of Chichester, Commissary of the Archdeaconry of

Lewes, and afterwards Justice of the Quorum for this county. He died in 1734. Arms—Per chevron az. and or, in chief three leopard's faces of the second, and in base an eagle displayed of the first, Clerke, impaling, arg., an eagle displayed, gu., a chief, az., Elson.

Dr. Francis Clerke, rector of North Bemfleet, was lessee of the estate of the Church of Westminster, and died in 1734, aged 50. In addition to paving the chancel with marble, he ordered by his will an organ* to be erected, with a salary of £30 a year to the organist. He is to be nominated and appointed by the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy. A letter is still extant in the parish chest, casting censure upon the dilatoriness of the executor, and advising the parish thereon.

The old font is said to have been taken away when the church was re-pewed.

The communion cup, which has a cover to it, is dated 1576.

An ancient sepulchral slab, or stone coffin lid, ornamented with a raised cross, the arms terminating in trefoils, was found in the church during the repairs. The lower part is broken and it is much defaced. It bears the following fragment of a Norman French inscription in Longo-bardic letters:—

“I C I G I [T] M A R C E L I E P R ”

which, when perfect, may have read,

Ici git Marcelie pr[iez pur s'alme.]†

Here lies Marcelie; pray for her (or his) soul.

Foundations, supposed to be those of an earlier church have been found on the south-east side of the present structure. In the church-yard upon a vault are inscribed memorials of the Vandervords of Canvey Island, dated 1724 and 1737. They are mentioned

* The present Organ was built by Gower, of Kingsland Road, London.

† Sometimes to these Norman French inscriptions is added, “Amen. Pater Noster.”

in the registers in 1718. John "Vandevode" was churchwarden in 1732. The name was formerly corruptly spelt "Vandford" and "Vanderwood."

In a vault in the same place are deposited the remains of James Matthews, who died in 1728, aged 73 years, and upon the slab is the following epitaph:—

"Sixty-three years our hoyman sail'd merrily round,
 Forty-four liv'd parishioner where he's Aground;
 Five wife's bear him thirty-three children, Enough,
 Land another as honest before he gets off."

The arms upon this monument are "Or, a stork close." Matthews was a man of considerable landed property in the parish. Suttons belonged to him.

The slab that covers the remains of John Richardson, who died in 1716, was broken in pieces by an aerolite about 50 years ago. The arms are, Or, on a chief three lions heads erased. Crest, a hand in gauntlet fessways, holding a sword erect, enfiled of an olive wreath.

The Bells, of Thundersley Lodge have a tomb here, and likewise the Brewitts. Upon the latter tomb is an inscription to the memory of John Brewitt Senr. late of this Parish, who died in 1749 aged 57, also of Mary his first wife, who died in 1720 and Ann his second who died in 1779. Likewise of Elizabeth his mother, who died in 1729; and John his son, who died in 1759.

The wall and fence of this Church-yard, with the exception of that portion, which the Cottages abut upon, is repaired by the Parish.

There is a fair on the 24th of August.

CANVEY ISLAND.

NORDEN'S MAP—DRAINAGE BY DUTCHMEN, AND THE ORIGIN OF THE THIRD-ACRE LANDS—FORMER UNHEALTHINESS—NOTICES OF ESTATES, THEIR OWNERS, AND NATURE OF THE SOIL—LAW SUITS—THE CHAPEL—AND MEMOIRS OF THE DUTCH PRESBYTERIANS.

CANVEY ISLAND contains about 4000 acres of land, chiefly arable. It lies opposite South Bemfleet and Hadleigh, and is separated from the main land by Hadleigh Ray, and East Haven and Bemfleet creeks. It is about five miles in length and two in breadth. Of itself it is no parish, but pays tithes to the following nine parishes—North and South Bemfleet, Bowers Gifford, Laindon, Pitsea, Vange, and to three parishes in Rochford Hundred—Prittlewell, Southchurch, and Hadleigh. Camden supposes this Island to be the Convennos mentioned in Ptolemy's Geography, wherein is a map showing two Islands stretching more to the eastward, than the land at present. In Norden's map executed by him in 1594, Canvey is laid down as some half dozen Islands, called "Canuey Ilandes," which are represented as extending beyond "Southchürche" church; and in a map published by Sudbury and Humble in 1608, the six Islands remain, but they extend no farther than Crow Stone.

Some have supposed that this Island was undrained until many years after the Romans had evacuated Britain. Be this as it may, at the east point, quantities

of pottery of that nation have been found, possibly thrown up by the tide. There are several interior walls now visible, marking different inclosures, stretching from the waterside farm to the eastern point, but it appears to have been very insufficiently drained until Sir Henry Appleton (the future cavalier) and others, then owners of the lands, agreed by deed, dated 9th April, 1622, to give one third of the lands, in fee simple, to Joas Croppenburgh, a Dutchman, in consideration of his sufficiently "inning" and recovering the Island, then usually overflowed at every spring tide, at his own costs and charges. This agreement was by consent, made a decree of the court of Chancery in 1622-3, and these lands at the present day are subject to the repair of the sea walls.

It appears to have suffered occasionally at different periods from the tide breaking through, notwithstanding the labors of the Dutch. According to a memorandum in the register book (about 1715) it suffered very much; and again, in 1735-6, when about half the cattle were drowned, and Morant relates the preservation of a cow and five hogs, then happening to stand on a dunghill, which were carried with it nearly a mile, over a deep creek, and were prevented from drowning, by their support being stopped by a high bank. The highest ground is near the chapel, where stock used to be driven when in danger.

The Island was much improved through the exertions and example of the late Mr. Hilton, of Danbury, which were the means of recovering 10 acres in every hundred from the waste; the gutters and sluices being laid from four to six feet lower than they were seventy years ago. The salubrity of the Island is much improved owing to this, and the Artesian Wells, of which there are about seven, which average about 250 feet in depth, the water from all occasionally flowing over the surface. The water at Charles Asplin's farm, called Brick House, is conveyed in

iron pipes to several of the grazing marshes, the flow of water being regulated by stop cocks; in one instance it is conveyed 80 rods, and the system well merits an inspection. Canvey formerly was shunned for its unhealthiness; an old writer tells us of old bailiffs, who being seasoned and acclimatized, had married in some instances from four to six wives. The custom was to select young fresh blooming lasses from the uplands, who soon sickened, and succumbed to the influences of the malaria. Norden speaks of low places about the creeks in the Hundred, which gave him a "moste cruell quarterne feuer," but he adds "The manie and sweete comodeties counteruayle the danger." He tells us this Island is "onlie conuerted to the feeding of ewes,* which men milke, and thereof make cheese (suche as it is), and of the curdes of the whey they make butter once in the yeare, w^{ch} serueth the clothier." Camden was also witness of the milking, and cheesemaking, and notices the "little dairy houses, called wickes."

The most ancient possessor of lands here upon record, was Edward Baker, Esq., who in 1543, held under Nicolas Wentworth several marshes. In 1557 Sir Roger Appleton, knight, held lands, and likewise his great grandson, Henry Appleton, Esq., in 1604. In fact, nearly the whole Island, called "Candy" *alias* Canvey, belonged to the Appletons, together with the feedings, fishing, and water courses surrounding it, (cum omnibus juribus). Shorman or Sporman marsh belonging to the last named, was formerly the property of one Latham, gentleman. Sir Henry, the encloser, has already been mentioned. The daughters of William Lukyn possessed two salt marshes, held of the honor of Rayleigh, called Langdowne Wyck and Lynward, and paid yearly a quit rent of 2s. and 2d. This was in the reign of Elizabeth.

* Tusser informs us that five ewes were equal to a cow in the 17th century.

He purchased these farms of King's College, Cambridge; they were formerly parcel of Kersey Priory, at Hadleigh in Suffolk.

"Kibcaps," "Lovens," "Scar House," and "North Wick," belong to the Hilton family.

"The Sixty Acres Farm" belongs to Major Spitty.

"Leigh Beck" was formerly the property of Henry Comyns Berkeley, of Lincolns-Inn-Fields, of whom it was purchased by Henry Wood of Hadleigh Park, in whose family it continues.

"Chimnies," in Bowers parish, belongs to the family of Hilton.

"Rack Hall" *alias* "Wreck Hall" *alias* "Southchurch Marsh," in the parish of Southchurch, situate at the south-east side of the Island (formerly consisting of 40 acres), is all third-acre land. It was originally purchased by Ralph Robinson, of Horndon (*circa* 1770), for 100 guineas. This was resold in 1815 at the Bell Inn, Horndon-on-the-Hill, by William Jeffries, to the grandfather of the present proprietor, Daniel Nash, for £1300. The family had made up their minds to let it go for £800, but the company being stimulated by a copious circulation of sherry, and a competition springing up between Nash and Wilson of Rochford Hall, the result was as above stated.

When the purchase money was paid at the Lion Inn, Rayleigh, (then kept by Whitham), to Jeffries and Charles Robinson (now of Horndon), it was deposited in the boots of the recipients, for fear of footpads. The farm took the name of "Wreck Hall" from the circumstance of Ralph Robinson purchasing of the underwriters, the wreck of the Ajax (which was driven on shore opposite "Burgess House" at South Shoebury), and applying the timbers to the construction of the premises. The Robinson family at that time inhabited Burgess House, whither the present Charles (now in extreme old age) was removed when six weeks old, from Southend in a chest of drawers.

At the south-west corner of the Island is a farm, lying in the parish of Prittlewell, all third-acre land, which was sold by George Robins to Shorter, of Spitalfields for £250. This afterwards became the property of George Bullas, and was sold in 1863 for £2500. There are 96 acres inside the walls, and about 50 acres of saltings. This now belongs to Pitchford.

The road to Canvey Island through South Bemfleet, was originally over the Downs, above the school* through Suttons, but it was diverted to its present route upon application to the Court of Quarter Session about the year 1830.

The soil of the Island is heavy, but good corn land, and the arable portion is all laid up in beds, from three to four rods in width. The roads, which are excellent, are kept in repair by the different parishes in which they are situated. The office of marsh bailiff has been in the Wellard family for seventy-two years. He acts under the direction of the commissioners.

Some years ago, before the settlement of the tithe question, various law-suits took place in consequence of brown mustard being grown with cereals, such as beans and wheat, the grower claiming the right of rubbing the mustard out of the tithe trave, which was established in his favour, after three trials. Whilst this question was in progress of settlement, the stacks entirely rotted.

A timber chapel was built here for the use of the Dutch inhabitants employed in draining the isle. The site of this and its successors is in Laindon parish. "Burn's History of the Foreign Protestant Refugee Churches,"† gives a brief account of this

* The site for which was granted by Henry Wood.

† Records of this chapel and the Synods are preserved at the Dutch church in Austin Friars, unless they were destroyed at the fire a few years ago. They are in the Dutch language.

chapel and congregation. They were Dutch Presbyterians, who came over with Croppenburgh in 1622. No trace of them can be found from this date to 1641, when they were represented on the 3rd of September in that year, at the Synod held in London by their minister, Mr. Cornelius Jacobsen, and their elder, Mr. Peter Priem. At the Synod in 1644 they were represented by their minister, Mr. Abraham Busk; and in 1647 by their minister, Mr. Daniel Katelar. In 1655 the following persons held the offices of elders, deacons, &c. :—Anthonius Dierickson, Peter Priem, Gilles Van Belle, Stephen de Kien; and a paper dated 2nd September, 1655, is signed by

Pr. Boije	Jan de Vos
Jan Malstoff	Jacob Polley
Anthenin Lanvijke	Cornelius (Amplut)
Daniel Rosel	Cornelius Classen
Jan Van Ghent Bruyghe	Yacop Clement
Matthiew Lucsie	Henrynge Cornelys
Franchois Manandijse	Massm Steenighe
Guilliaume Manandijse	Marijnes Claeijsen
Robert Walspecke	Jan de Schildeze
Adrian Vander Biest	Pieter Veijneer
Andrew de Clerck	Volant Sanders
Maximilen Rousselle	&c., &c., &c.

The chapel referred to having fallen into decay, another was built for service according to the rites of the Church of England, at the charge of Mr. Edgar, an officer in the victualling office, and consecrated the 11th June, 1712, as appears from an entry in the South Bemflete registers, and dedicated to S. Katherine. Salmon says this ceremony was performed by the Bishop of London. This edifice fell down, and another was erected (*circa* 1745) partly by a contribution of the inhabitants, but chiefly from a benefaction of Daniel Scratton, of Prittlewell, who gave part of the tithes to trustees, to pay ten pounds a year to the vicar of Prittlewell, the better to enable him to perform divine service here, and ten pounds a year more

to the minister, duly appointed, to preach twenty sermons. These services were chiefly performed in the summer months, or when weather permitted. At that period about £17 a year was received by the minister from the incumbents of the nine parishes who received tithes out of the place.* The income of the curate until a recent period, from all sources, amounted to about £75 per annum; but this has been augmented by the statute 29th and 30th Vict., cap. 111, with the additional sum of £80 per annum. There are six acres three roods and one pole of land in Hawkwell parish belonging to the incumbent: this was purchased for the sum of £600, granted by Queen Anne's bounty. The right of way to this property is through Mr. Holt-White's land, of whose ancestor it was purchased. The price paid for it seems to have been far beyond its value, and the money most injudiciously expended.

The chapel was again nearly re-built in 1849 by contributions, during the incumbency of the Reverend W. C. R. Ray, who relinquished it upon being appointed vicar of Eastwood. The perpetual curacy, which is in the patronage of the Bishop of Rochester, was then accepted by the late lamented John Aubone Cook; and is now held by the Reverend T. J. Henderson, the vicar of South Bemfleet. The chapel has the peculiarity of having windows secured by outside shutters. Service is now regularly performed every Sunday. The seats are open and unappropriated, except one, which is set apart for the officer and men under him of the preventive service; there being a station on the Island for nine men, an officer, and a chief boatman. Formerly there were no separate register books for Canvey Island, but entries were

* In the so called "dark ages," under similar conditions, this Island and Wallasea would probably have been parochialized. Foulness was constituted a chapelry as soon as the necessity arose; the mediæval clergy and patrons voluntarily surrendering their proportion of tithe for the purpose, and parochialized in 1554.

made in those of South Bemfleet and neighbouring parishes. Marriages took place in this chapel in 1749, when Thomas Hanson and Jane Greenaway were united, and other parties in 1754.

The Island, 70 years ago, was a noted place for smuggling.

CANEWDON.

BOUNDARY—OCCUPATION BY DANES AND ROMANS—BEACON HILL—THE MANORS—CUKINGSTOLE-CROFT—BUTTS HILL—FAMILY OF KERSTEMAN—CHARITIES—CLERGY—CHURCH, &c.

CANEWDON is described by some writers as being bounded on the north by the river Crouch. This is not altogether so, as “Lands End,”* a farm in the marshes, and a small strip of pasture land called “Canewdon Hooks,” being part of “Lower Raypitts,” intervene between the river and Canewdon. “Lands End” is in the parishes of Althorne and Cricksea, and “Canewdon Hooks” in the parish of Cricksea, in Dengie hundred. The Crouch, which takes its rise from two springs at Little Burstead and Laindon, joins the sea below Burnham, and is navigable as far as Battles Bridge. It is probable when the county was divided by Alfred into hundreds, and each hundred into tithings, now known as parishes, that this river took a more deviating, serpentine, and circuitous course than at present, as besides the above-named peculiarities, a portion of Hockley is on the north side of the river, and if old maps are consulted, the present features of the stream are widely different.

Canewdon is variously written in records, as Can-

* “Lands End” is the property of William Isaac Belcham, of Great Wheatleys in Rayleigh. He purchased it in 1866, of Major General Tomkyns, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The right of way to it is by Pudsey Hall, through Shuttleworths and Thoringtons, but access is likewise obtained through Lambourne Hall.

nedon,† Canvedon, Canudon, and Carendun. Dun in Saxon signifies a hill, and the first part of the name is supposed to be derived from Canute the Dane. In the place now occupied by the Hall formerly existed a fortified mansion, surrounded by a double moat, or fosse, specimens of which are now rarely met with. Portions of this fosse on the north, are still extant, and can be traced throughout its extent. Old writers tell us that Canute's camp was of an oblong form, and enclosed about six acres, but they are silent as to its exact position. Weever says that chieftain kept his court here. When Morant wrote "Butts" hill was all grass. Within the memory of man this meadow has been divided into Upper Butts, now ploughed, and Lower Butts, still pasture; a lane has likewise been cut through it, and the corner, where the Roman remains were found, has been thrown into Duckett's mead, supposed to be identical with Cukingstole-croft. In Lower Butts, upon the side of the hill, is a place called "camping ground," but which has rather the appearance of a land-slip; and around Duckett's mead (consisting of six acres) which joins the fosse before mentioned, is a wide ditch or fosse, (being on the northern side a rod wide), and high banks are reported to have been carted away for agricultural purposes. The exact locality of this camp must therefore be left to conjecture, but Duckett's mead has the greatest claim to identity. Previous to the presence of the Danish warrior, the Romans were acquainted with this spot, as in 1712 urns of that nation were found upon opening a gravel pit, only two of which could be taken up whole, owing to their extreme brittleness. Like others that have been found in the hundred, they contain bones, ashes, and undistinguishable mould. One of those preserved was nearly six inches

† In the registers of Great Stambridge, the name of a family called Canneddou is mentioned in 1566, Caningdon in 1625, and it is to be found in other parishes.

in diameter. There were not two exactly alike, and they differed in size, shape, colour and figures. The Rev. George Wheatley rendered an account of these to Salmon, the historian. The former was curate here in 1721; he was a learned scholar, and well skilled in the Saxon language. Further researches for these urns were made about 1718 by the Rev. Thomas Pocock, rector of Danbury; several were found, which could not be preserved. They lay upon a stratum of gravel about eighteen inches below the surface of the ground.

Former writers mention a beacon existing on a hill in the vicinity. It is called by the villagers Bacon-hill, and is situated to the west of the church. This place is supposed to have been a station of an officer under the Comes Littoris Saxonici, to have an eye upon the pirates. The mount at Hockley may have had some connexion with it, as the head quarters of the officer under that body was at Billericay.

No former possessor is mentioned here previous to Suene. After his grandson's forfeiture, this large parish branched out into five manors—Canewdon, Apton Hall, Scottys, Lamborn Hall, and the hamlet and manor of Puteseia. The earliest record we afterwards possess of an owner of Canewdon Hall and manor, was John de Cancellis, of French extraction, and in that country surnamed Chanceaux. This was in the reign of Edward 1st: he held under the king, in capite, of his honor of Rayleigh. The property continued in this family until the reign of Richard II, when Margery de Chanceaux died in possession of this manor, and likewise in that of Poteshethe (Pudsey). Her first husband was Thomas de Staple of Shopland, and as she had no children by her second husband John de Chanceaux, chivaler, the property was distributed partly to Elizabeth, wife of John de Pritelwell, and Alice, wife of John de Sutton, her children by Staple. The family of Chanceaux are

supposed to have come in with the Conqueror from Chauncy, near Amiens, in Picardy; and the name is to be found in the roll of Battel Abbey. From that person, Sir Henry Chauncy, of Hertfordshire, derived himself, a gentleman who after a laborious search, left a collection of antiquities, second only to Sir William Dugdale's, Warwickshire. Some of these Chanceaux were buried at Canewdon. Salmon tells us, near the entrance into the chancel from the church was a stone, with this inscription:—

“Hic jacet Dominus Johes Chanceaux, Miles, qui ob. 5 Feb.
Propicietur Deus, Amen.”

and at the upper end of the north aisle,—

“Ioy gist Thomas Chanceaux, Esquier, qui morrust le jour
moys D' Octobr,—et de tous Cristiens eyt Mercy, Amen.”

No further account of owners of this estate is to be found till the reign of Henry VII, when it belonged to Thomas Darcy, together with the manors of Shernewards and Lostmans. Roger, his son and heir, at the time of his decease in 1508 held the same, together with the manors of Apeton-hall and Pudseyehall. He had also estates at Shopland, Maldon, Little Badow, Southminster, and other parts. Thomas Darcey, his son, sold this manor, with lands in this parish, Hakewell, Assingdon, Paklesham, Stanbridge and Wakering, to Thomas Armiger, who died in 1558, leaving Thomas, his son and heir. It subsequently became the property of Sir Nathan Wright, of Cranham-hall, Bart., who died in 1727, leaving it to his widow, who remarried to Herbert Tryst, sheriff in 1737. At her death Sir Nathan's daughter Elizabeth, who became the wife of General James Oglethorp, enjoyed it in her own right. Oglethorp lived at Westbrook-place, in Surrey: he settled the colony of Georgia. The representatives of the General sold this estate and manor in 1788 to Richard Eaton, of Upper Clapton Terrace, Hackney, in the county of Middlesex. By his will, dated the 19th of October,

1804, he devised the manor and estate to his daughter, Harriett Eaton, for life, with remainder in tail; and it was under the limitations contained in the will, that his relative, Paul Mildmay Pell, came into possession of the property, on the death of Miss Eaton, which took place on the 8th October, 1852. Miss Eaton joined Pell in barring the entail, created by the will, in December, 1845; and in November, 1857, Pell* conveyed the estate to William Bodger, of Childerditch. Bodger, who was considered an acute man of business, made a rather indifferent bargain. It is said he was deceived as to the capability of the land, by the tenant King having two years produce of the farm in stack. He attempted its cultivation, with horses, whose average value was about £5 a head, and failed in the attempt. In 1861 Bodger sold the estate to James Neill, of Borrowfield, in the county of Montrose, Scotland. Capital is now being invested in improvement, of which the soil stood in great need. Pell sold the manor in 1859 to Augustus Kortright, of Furze-hall, Fryerning, who is the present lord. The present house upon the estate was built in 1807, at the commencement of Bullen's tenancy, (who succeeded Kilworth). Bullen was a builder, residing in London.

Morant mentions Cuppolds-croft, *alias* Cukingstole-croft, *alias* Lamp-croft, given for the maintenance of a light in this church, as appears by Inquisition 10 Elizabeth. According to the Charity Commissioners report it is enumerated in an indenture of the same period, as being conveyed to trustees for the benefit of the poor. There is a tradition that Duckett's-mead (so called from an occupier, whose name occurs in the registers in 1728), is identical with Cukingstole-croft, but at the present day it is part of Canewdon-hall. It doubtless derived its name from being the

* Pell is Captain in the South Lincoln Militia; and a few years since he was High Sheriff of Breconshire, where he then resided.

place of punishment for noisy and unruly women. A ducking-stool was used at Kingston on Thames as late as 1801, (*vide* Chelmsford Chronicle, April 10, in that year). The scold after that punishment, fell upon one of her acquaintance with tongue, tooth and nail, and would, had she not been prevented, have deserved a second dipping, even before she was dry from the first. One of these engines was to be seen in the Town-hall at Ipswich, as late as 1843. On some stools were represented evil spirits in the act of seizing the scolds.

In Boswell's Life of Johnson, the Doctor says "We have stocks* for men, ducking-stools for women, and a pound for beasts." Ducking-stool, Cucking or Choking-stool, are identical. In some places they are called tumbrels, and we have evidence of their having been kept in repair at the expense of parishes until the latter end of the last century. In Domesday book it is called "Cathedra Stercoris." It was in use even at the time of the Saxons, and was a punishment anciently inflicted upon brewers and bakers, breaking the laws, but its chief use was to repress the tongues of unquiet women, by placing them in a chair, fixed at the end of a long pole, by which they were immersed in some muddy or stinking pond. This pole or beam worked upon an upright post, after the fashion of a see-saw.

"Butts Hill," where the Roman urns were found, is on the north of Canewdon Hall. This is the place where the youth of the village are supposed to have practised archery, and where the volunteers, at the commencement of the present century, used to assemble under Captain Barrington. The expenses of making the butts (according to Coate's History of Reading) was defrayed by the churchwardens. These butts consisted of turf, supported with pieces of

* Stocks still exist at Canewdon. They are a fixture within the cage, and the date 1775 is thereon.

timber and rails. By Edward IV, every Englishman was obliged to have a "bow in his house of his own length, either of yew, wych, hazel, ash, or auburn," probably alder. The best arrows were made of the asp. By a statute of Elizabeth, which relates to bowyers, each is always to have in his house fifty bows, made of elm, witch, hazel or ash. Previous to this Queen's reign, statutes were in force to compel the practice of archery; and every one, except those who were incapacitated from age, infirmity or office, was required to exercise himself in shooting, but towards the end of her reign, the people were allowed to do as they pleased in that respect. A good bow and well-tried arrows, (the national weapons) were considered a family inheritance. Shooting with the cross-bow at one time was prohibited by law.

"Mill Hatch" is a field on Canewdon Hall, upon the right hand side, leading from Canewdon to Ashingdon, adjoining Bolt-hall lane.

In 1858 a small gold British coin was found on Canewdon-hall, in digging a post hole. It is a coin of Cunobeline (the Cymbeline of Shakespear). Its value would be about 16s. at the present time. These coins are rude imitations of Greek coins, convex on one side, and concave very often on the other: the concave side is frequently blank. The one in question, which is in the possession of Mr. Meeson, of Grays, has a horse on one side, but without any letters indicating the place of coinage, which was probably at Colchester, as a mint existed there. The horse is similar in design to that cut out in the turf on the hill side in Berkshire. Cunobeline was sovereign of the Trinobantes, and his seat was at Camulodunum, the modern Colchester. He died about A.D. 42.

An angel guinea was found at Scott's Hall, about the same period. The angel of Edward IV (when the coinage was depreciated) was equivalent to 6s. 8d., although it has represented 10s. at times.

Coins are frequently found in the village, and church-yard; one found by the sexton was Venetian, with the image of a winged lion thereon; and in digging a grave, a coin and a Nuremburg token were found beneath a scull.

"Apton Hall" and manor, derived its name from William de Apetone, who lived in the reign of Henry III. It continued for several generations in this family. Thomas de Staple, of Shopland, died in 1372, possessed of this manor, except Acrefleet-marsh, and it went as Canewdon manor, to his female heirs. It was afterwards in the Darcy, Dier, and Smith families, and Sir Arthur Harris, who died in possession in 1631, left it to Sir Cranmer Harris,* his son. It was next in possession of Joseph Fishpoole of Billericay, who married a daughter of Mr. Prigmore, of Kelvedon. Joseph, his son and heir, married Rebecca, daughter of Nicolas Blackwell, of Bradwell. John Fishpool, of Billericay, was sheriff of Essex in 1749. Previous to 1795 it was in the possession of Robert Tabrum,† of Butlers, in Shopland, who sold it to John Mew. The latter cased or bricked the house, and left the estate to his nephew Henry Mew. There are no courts held for this manor at the present day. The family vault of the Mews is in the nave of Canewdon church. They were originally from Nottinghamshire. Upon the marriage of one of this family with Huntley Bacon, several punt guns were fired from the church steeple, to announce the conclusion of the ceremony to those members staying at home. Several cottages in the village belong to the daughters of William Mew.

The manor and estate of "Scottys," took that name from an ancient owner, surnamed Scott, who lived here. Weever says this was once called Breamstons, probably Briancons, from the family of

* Sir Cranmer was descended from William Harrys of Prittlewell.

† The vault of the Tabrum's is in Canewdon church-yard.

Brianzon, of South Fambridge. It belonged to John Tyrell, of Beches, in the reign of Henry VII, and remained in that family till Edmund Tyrell's death in 1574, who left four daughters, co-heirs. His third daughter Thomasine's second husband was William Playters, of Sotterley, in Suffolk, and she enjoyed this manor in her own right. Her son, Thomas Playters, conveyed it to the family of Cannon, of Rettenden, who were possessed of it in 1598. John Scott died the owner of it in 1616: afterwards Alderman Kiffin, of London, had it; then John Evans, of Wanledge, in Wiltshire, who settled it upon his daughter Eleanor, wife of John Lance, of the Inner Temple, and her children. After her death they sold it to Nehemiah Bennet, of London, merchant, who sold it, together with Barrington's in Rayleigh, to the Rev. Thomas Juson, rector of Wanstead, who died in 1750, leaving it to his son, the Rev. Thomas Juson. Jeremiah Kersteman, who died in 1822, afterwards possessed it. It was sold in 1823 to Alderman George Bridges, of Portland Place, Middlesex. He died *circa* 1840, and left the estate to his son, Francis Tuke, for life; and then to his grandson, the Rev. Francis Tuke, who sold it in 1858 to the present possessor John Stallibrass, of Eastwood-bury, eldest son of Frederick Stallibrass, of Thorp-hall, in Southchurch. He married Mary, the eldest daughter of Stephen Allen the younger, formerly of Foulness. The lord of this manor is one of those concerned in the whispering or lawless court at Rochford, and the manorial courts of this manor have lately been revived. Scotts-hall is an extremely old house: in one of the bedrooms are some Dutch tiles, formerly part of the mantel-piece, upon which are represented the temptation of Joseph, by the wife of Potiphar; the angel and Tobit; Ahasuerus holding out the golden sceptre to Esther, and other scriptural subjects. Behind this old mansion is a moat, enclosing about

two acres of land, where an older mansion no doubt existed.

The manor of "Lamborn-hall" is so named from a family that came from Lamborn, in Ongar Hundred, in the reign of Edward I. In Henry VIIth's reign it was in Thomasine, daughter of John Barrington of Rayleigh. She had three husbands: 1—William Lunsford, or as he is called in the inquisition Louseworth; 2—William Sidney, of Stoke Daubernon in Surrey; 3—John Hopton. The arms of Barrington and Lunsford were formerly in one of the windows of Rayleigh church. William Louseworth or Lunsforthe, their son and heir, who died in 1531, held the manor of Lamborne-hall, with appurtenances of the king by suit of the Lawless Court in Rayleigh, at the yearly rent of 3s. 4d. This estate afterwards came into the family of Campion. William Campion died in 1615, in possession of Lamborn-hall and other lands, lately Lunsford's. William Campion was his son and heir. In 1768 it belonged to Henry Campion, of Sussex. William John Campion, of Danny Park, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, now owns it. This estate together with Campions-hall (the latter no longer belonging to them) is the original property of the family. They have been settled for nearly two centuries at Danny, previously to which they resided at Cambwell, in Kent.

"Upper and Lower Raypitts," enclosed or rather added to by the Dutch families, belongs to him; and likewise a farm called "Gays," which was purchased by him of the Copeland family, of Chelmsford, and this latter possession gives an additional thoroughfare and access to Raypitts. The right of way to Upper Raypitts is by Pudsey-hall, and access is obtained to Lower Raypitts by Lamborn-hall, between Lion creek and the old fleet.

The hamlet of "Putesey" is said to have been so named from some heath ground. It is called in

records Podehele, Potesthete, Pudshall, and Pudsithe. This was termed a village in the time of Edward the Confessor. The noble family of De Vere, Earls of Oxford, were once Lords paramount here. It then passed to the Chanceux and Darcy families. Bartholomew Averell died possessed of this manor in 1562. He left three daughters, co-heirs.* John Luther, who represented this county in 1768, owned it, and bequeathed it to Francis Fane, at the same time entailing it. The present possessor, Colonel John Fane, represents Oxfordshire in parliament, which his father, an eminent agriculturist, represented before him. His seat is at Wormsley, in that county. He is a descendant of Henry Fane, younger brother of Thomas, eighth Earl of Westmoreland. Part of a gigantic statue, supposed to represent a heathen deity, was dug up upon Pudsey-hall in 1847. It is still in existence, and lies in the yard near the house. It was found in a field called Great Hydes (adjoining Hyde wood), on the south side of the road leading from Canewdon to Ashingdon. A head of a battle-axe was found near, said to have been a Norman weapon. Beneath the statue were appearances of bones, which crumbled upon exposure to the air.

"Inefers" is a small farm belonging to Colonel John Fane.

"Acres-fleet" is mentioned in records as a manor. It is in Wallasea Island, and now known by the name of "All Fleet."

"Lostmans" or "Loughtmans," and "Shernewards" are mentioned as two manors, subordinate to that of Canewdon, and were in the Darcy family in 1485. Sarah Levitt, widow, held the manor of Loftmans in

* MORANT states this estate belonged afterwards to Sir Samuel Moyer, created a baronet in 1701, and styled of Pudsey-hall. This appears to have been a mistake, as he took his title from Pitsey-hall. His father, at the time of his death in 1683, had not an acre of land in Canewdon, and it is doubtful whether they ever had Pudsey, but his heirs still hold Pitsey.

1608. It belonged afterwards to Mr. Parsons,* of South-church, and was purchased in 1746 by Jeremiah Kersteman, of Canewdon, who died in 1789. He built the present mansion, and is said to have been the first person who drove a carriage and pair in this Hundred. His coachman was Thomas Wright, father of John Wright, now tenant of Gays. This coach† had no box, and Wright rode as postillion. The Kerstemans of Loftmans trace their descent from *Geslien Kersteman*, of Ipres, Flanders, who emigrated about 1564, and married Joanna Platwick. Their second son *Nicholas*§ was buried at Corringham in 1660, and had issue *Jeremiah*,† buried at the same place in 1665, who left a son *Jeremiah*, baptized at Corringham, in 1659, who married Judith Bishop. Their issue was *Jeremiah*, who was buried at Canewdon in 1726. The latter by his first wife, Abigale Gibson (who died at "Lamburn-hall," June 20th, 1717, where the family then resided), had issue six sons and two daughters, and by his second wife, Cordelia Sly,¶ had *Jeremiah* (before mentioned),

* In 1712 a John Parsons lived in Wallasea Island. In 1713 a Christopher Parsons (described as of "Tharp-hall") was interred in a vault at the east end of the chancel in South-church church-yard, and the remains of John Parsons, son of Christopher and Elizabeth Parsons, who was interred in 1744, lie near. In 1759 notice of a Christopher Parsons is to be found in the registers of Little Wakering, and in the same year C. Parsons, Sen., and Jun., are mentioned in those of North Shoebury.—For the inscription recorded on the above tomb, and some account of the family, see South-church.

† Until nearly the end of the last century, vehicles kept for pleasure in this Hundred, such as coaches, headed chaises, and gigs, did not average more than one to each parish.

§ His wife's name was Sarah.

† His wife's name was Katherine. It is said there was formerly a stone to the memory of a Kersteman in Corringham church-yard, which was removed at the construction of a drain.

¶ Cordelia Sly married again to an Attridge, and died in 1775, aged 77 years. There is a headstone to her memory in Hockley church-yard. She died in an old brick house in Hockley, nearly opposite Turrett House. There were formerly portraits at Scotts-hall of Thomas Slye, and his father, Thomas Slye, Sen., of Canewdon Hall, who died June 14th, 1740, and of Cordelia Attridge (formerly Slye) mother of Jeremiah Kersteman.

buried at Canewdon in 1789. There is a mural monument to his memory, and that of Mary his wife, upon the south wall of Canewdon chancel. It states he was 67 years old at the time of his decease, and was for many years one of his Majesties justices of the peace.* He married in 1742 Mary Spurgeon, of Little Stambridge. This lady died in 1801, aged 84 years. They had issue three sons and six daughters, of whom *Jeremiah*, who died in 1822, aged 66, succeeded his father. Of the other sons and daughters, Thomas† married a Dorothy Kersteman, Mary married Thomas Swaine,§ surgeon, of Rochford, Elizabeth married John Lodwick, of Shoebury, and Judith was united to James Scratton, of Stambridge.

Jeremiah, the surviving son and heir, married Elizabeth Frost,‡ of Boreham, who died in 1815, aged 66 years. This couple are mentioned on a monument in the chancel, and likewise their daughter Caroline, who died in 1842, aged 55 years. After

* The Kerstemans never had a grant of arms in England. Their coat is a foreign one. Upon this monument they are—Az., three fish naiant in pale Or, *Kersteman* impaling Arg., on a bend Gu., three leopards' faces Or. Crest, a demi-man affrontée in armour, Proper, vizor up, plumed Arg., holding in his dexter hand an arrow palewise Or, barbed and flecked Az. The impaled coat is no doubt intended for *Spurgeon*, and if so it is an assumed one, as no family of that name is known to have had a grant of arms. The name of Kersteman was formerly in the Registers of the Dutch church in Austin Friars, and hatchments of the family were upon the walls, but these were destroyed in the recent fire. There are some discrepancies in the arms of Kersteman. In Austin Friars the fish were white with red tails and fins; they are entirely white in the hatchment of James Scratton (who married a Kersteman), placed in Stanford-le-Hope church, but in the Kersteman arms in Canewdon church, the fish as before stated are gold.

† Upon the floor of the chancel is a slab to the memory of Thomas Kersteman, who died in 1780; Dorothy his daughter, who died in 1781; and Dorothy his wife, who died November 20th, 1783. After Kersteman's decease she married James Wyatt.

§ Upon the floor of the aisle in Canewdon church, is a slab with this inscription:—"Thomas Swaine, 1787" (the rest illegible). "Mary Swaine, relict of the above, died 13th December, 1822, aged 79." Upon a hatchment in the chancel is "Swaine, Az., a chevron between three pheons Or., on a chief Gu., three maidens' heads couped ppr, crined Or., impaling Kersteman as before. Crest, a maiden's head couped at the breast Proper, crined Or.

‡ Upon a hatchment in the chancel is, Kersteman as before, impaling Arg., a chevron between three trefoils slipped Sa. *Frost*, Crest as before.

the record of their deaths we are reminded that "The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance," and then follow these lines :—

" Could but esteem and love preserve our breath,
And guard us longer from the stroke of death ;
Late had for them delayed the funeral knell,
Whom all mankind esteem^d and loved so well."

Jeremiah and Elizabeth Kersteman, had several sons and daughters, of whom *Jeremiah*, born in 1786, who succeeded to the estate, married Frances Wentworth Bingham in 1841; Thomas married Mary Ann Berkeley; and Mary Ann was the wife of the Rev. William Atkinson, vicar of Canewdon; Eliza Frost married to J. K. Lodwick, and Louisa to William Howland Hayward,* a magistrate for the counties of Suffolk and Essex.

The last named Jeremiah Kersteman was a Lieut.-Col. in the East Essex Militia, D.L. and J.P. He died at Southend in 1850, aged 64 years, leaving two sons, *Jeremiah Bingham*, born in 1842, who is a Lieutenant in the 100th Regiment, known as the Prince of Wales' Royal Canadians, and Freeland Burrard, born in 1843. Francis Wentworth Bingham, his widow, who still survives, was second daughter of Joseph Bingham, Rear Admiral of the Blue,† a member of a family who trace their descent from the Bingham of Wakefield, in Yorkshire, previous to the Revolution of 1688, and several of whom have held high preferment in the church. One, a Hampshire rector, who died in 1723, was the author of "*Origines Ecclesiasticæ*," or the Antiquities of the Christian Church, and other works. One branch of the Kersteman family was the late Colonel W. Brewse Kersteman (of the line), and

* Hayward had one son and three daughters, of whom, Joanna married Pyke Burleigh; Louisa, the Rev. Edward Barlow, formerly curate of Rochford.

† His body reposes near Lord Nelson's in the crypt of St. Paul's. Sarah his third daughter, married the Rev. Thomas Schreiber, late rector of Bradwell juxta Mare.

there was a Kersteman, otherwise Kesterman, interred in the Dutch Presbyterian Church of Austin Friars in 1712, whose wife was a Creffield, also a Flanders family. He bore the arms of Kersteman and Creffield impaled. The Creffield family terminated in an heiress, and was represented by the late Charles Gray Round, of Birch Hall, who quartered the arms of Creffield,—Quarterly Arg and Sa., a human heart Gu. between two sinister hands, apaumée coupé and erect in chief, and as many human legs coupé above the knee, also erect in base, counterchanged.

“Thoringtons” belongs to the poor of Wigan, in Lancashire. It consists of 53 acres and 1 rood. In 1768 it was let for £18 per annum. The churchwardens of that parish have the control of the rents.

“Wades” farm, consisting of about 34 acres, is situated at the east end of the parish, on the road leading to Cricksea Ferry. It is now held by the Rev. Frederick Adrian Scroop Fane, of Priors, near Brentwood. It was purchased partly with benefaction money, and a grant from Queen Anne’s Bounty in 1743, and is appended to the perpetual curacy of Norton-Mandeville in perpetuity, and is its chief source of income.

“Norpits” farm, of which some portion is marsh land, joins the Crouch river. The right of way is through Pudsey Lane. There is a tradition that access was formerly obtained through South Fambridge Hall farm, and a lane leading in that direction still exists upon that property. Norpits was formerly in the Lascelles family, ancestors of the Earls of Harewood. There is a genealogical table of the Lascelles preserved with the title deeds of the estate, but it does not go farther back than Daniel Lascelles, of Stank-hall, in Yorkshire, and member of parliament for North Allerton, who died in 1734, and was buried

§ The hatchment of Kersteman and Creffield was destroyed at the fire of Austin Friars.

at the latter place. This pedigree goes much farther into detail and biography of the family than the published genealogies of the peerage. The father of Daniel Lascelles, Francis Lascelles, was a colonel in the army of the Parliament during the rebellion, and his sons emigrated to Barbadoes, where they amassed a large fortune. His grandson Edwin (descended from his first wife, Margaret, daughter of George Metcalfe) was created Baron Harewood in 1790, but the title becoming extinct, it was revived in 1796 in the person of Edward Lascelles, grandson of Daniel Lascelles, by his second wife, Mary, daughter of Edward Lascelles, of London. The last-named lord sold this estate (*circa* 1800) to John Eley, who was resident. He conveyed it to Thomas Laver, of Prittlewell Temple, August 29th, 1812, the consideration money amounting to £10,000. It was re-sold during Laver's life to Wyatt George Gibson in 1836; he died in 1862, leaving the property to his wife for life, with reversion to his son G. S. Gibson, banker, of Saffron Walden.

"Scaldhurst" otherwise "Scauld House," was formerly the residence of Richard Woods, who by will dated 21st of February, 1687, (proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Essex, 26th April, 1688), after his own and wife's death, which happened in 1687 and 1688, (with the exception of certain legacies) gave all his real and personal estate, and the lease of his farm called "Scalders," in Canewdon, to purchase lands, the rents of which were to be employed to find bread for the poor, and to be distributed in the chancel of the parish church for ever. Edward Hatchman, of Scotts-hall, and John Jennings were his executors. Richard Woods, a nephew of this Richard Wood or Woods, between five and six years of age, was baptized on Christmas day in 1685, respecting whom we have no further notice. Prior to 1777 this estate was owned by Elizabeth Phill, who devised

it to her cousin, John Coxe, of Lincolns-Inn. Coxe, by his will in 1779, bequeathed it to Dr. John Rowland Berkeley, of Acton Beauchamp, in Worcestershire, who was admitted to the copyhold in 1815, and redeemed the land-tax. William Berkeley afterwards possessed it. George Bishop was admitted in 1850. It subsequently became the property of Miss Bishop, who marrying a Mr. Little, the latter sold it to William Thirtle in 1857, whose son George, of Ruffords Buildings, Islington, was admitted in 1865. The latter sold the property to Thomas Vinson, born at Saint Laurence, in Dengie Hundred, who now resides upon the estate. This estate, since the commutation of tithes, has been laid down to grass, but is now being again converted into arable. It was formerly farmed by Harrison, of Rochford-hall, who disposed of the lease to Mr. Keys. This estate, which has a clay sub-soil, was drained by a Scotchman some years ago upon the deep principle, without reference to the outfall, which was afterwards found to be insufficient for the purpose.

“Sturgeons,” in the Court Rolls called “Rogers, Hatches, Harts, and Falcons,” was formerly the property of Elizabeth Sturgeon, of Colchester, widow, who died *circa* 1780. Her daughter Mary, the wife of William Brett, of Earls Colne, was admitted to one moiety in 1792, and her other daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Shaw King, of Thorpe, (entitled to the other moiety) was admitted at the same time: they appear to have been seized in tail. The estate was disentailed in 1794. In 1847 Mary Brett, widow, and others entitled to the two moieties, sold the estate to John Daines. In 1864 the executors of John Daines, of Southchurch, who died in 1863, aged 70, sold the property to the present owner, Thomas Oddy, of Woodham Ferris, formerly of Havengore Island.

“White House,” or “Mintons” (upon the marriage of William Kersteman, of London, with Ann Lambert,

the daughter of Thomas Lambert, late Governor of St. Helena) with other property was settled to the use of the said William Kersteman and wife for life, and upon other uses, with the ultimate remainder to William Kersteman in fee. In 1787 William Kersteman, by his will, devised this property together with other, situate at Paglesham and Canvey Island, to his sons William and Andrews and the survivor, and after the decease of both he devised it to the heirs of William in tail, and in default of issue to the Rev. Andrews Kersteman,* clerk, and his heirs, male. William died 24th September, 1820, having married Mary Brewse, and resided at Brewse House, Milverton, Somersetshire. Andrews died in 1827. William left a son, William Brewse Kersteman, a Lieutenant-Col. in the army, who resided at Brewse House, Milverton, Somerset, and married Susannah Falkner, and disentailed the estate, and sold White House and Mintons to John Daines in 1839; he bequeathed it to his relict who now enjoys it.

"Bolt-hall" in 1768 was the property of one Dowse. The late George Belcham, of Brick-house, Rayleigh, purchased it of Tyssen, of Penendon-heath, Maidstone, Kent, and left it to his widow.

"Shuttleworths," adjoining the Wigan poor land, belongs to W. I. Belcham, and was purchased by him of the same parties as Lands-end.

"Boxes" belongs to John Offord, who bought it of William Clark, of Norton-hall.

"Barbers" was once owned by Michael Comport, solicitor, of Rochford, who died a few years ago in Higgins's alms houses, Northfleet, Kent. He sold this property to John Offord, of Loftmans.

"New-hall," according to the pleas at Westminster 26 Henry III, was formerly in possession of William Totham, who left a certain charity to the parish, to be mentioned presently. In 1768, this estate belonged

* There was an Andrews Kersteman, curate of Paglesham in 1786.

to Mr. Brograve, of Norwich. It has since been in the Sevier family. The late Richard Catlow Bowden, of Clapham Common, Surrey, obtained it by marriage with a Sevier, and his widow now enjoys it.

The "Wick Farm" at one time was the property of Thomas Laver, of Prittlewell Temple, and was purchased by Eliza Frost, widow of Jeremiah Kersteman Lodwick, at whose death in 1861, it was sold to Richard Catlow Bowden, who bequeathed it to his widow.

"Lion House" formerly belonged to Samuel Wade, who died in 1813. It was then purchased by Stephen Allen, of Paglesham-house, who died in 1849. It now belongs to his son's widow, Mrs. Golden Allen, of Thurrock.

"Cricksea Ferry House" and farm, in Wallasea Island (together with the tolls) were Samuel Wade's already mentioned, who sold the same to John Scratton, of Prittlewell Priory. His son, Edward Scratton, afterwards had it, and sold the same to Stephen Allen before named. The latter left it to his son, John Allen. The rights of ferriage across the Crouch belong exclusively to this farm, but formerly the ferry was from Lion-house, which was then the property of the same owner. The creek near Lion-house, to a certain extent, grew up; independently of which the present ferry shortens the distance across the river, nearly three-quarters of a mile. The road leading to the ferry is a private one.

"Ballards Gore" was purchased by the late Bennett Foster, of Foulness, of the trustees under the will of the Rev. James Camper Wright. It now belongs to his widow, Mrs. C. Foster.

"Little Doggetts" has recently been purchased by Henry Mew. It was sold by Earl Cowley, to whom it was bequeathed by the late Earl of Mornington.

"Watmans" belongs to Mrs. Kersteman, widow of Lieut.-Col. Kersteman, of Loftmans.

The population of Canewdon in 1861 was 664, including 47 living in Wallasea. The total number of acres amounts to 5509, which comprises 263 in roads and wastes; and the rateable value in 1862 was assessed at £7541 5s. In 1760 the rateable value was £1764. The vicar and lay impropriator employed James Tatham in 1840 to commute the tithes, and they were apportioned by Samuel Baker and Michael John Mason. There are 61 acres of vicarial glebe including the site of the house, and two acres, one rood, twenty-four poles of rectorial glebe land. Several of the farms in Wallasea pay a small modus to the vicar in lieu of vicarial tithes. Ringwood pays £1 10s. per annum; and the Ferry farm 7s. 6d. The rectorial tithes were commuted at £980, and the vicarial at £575, including the moduses, and a further sum of 6s. 8d. per acre is payable to the the lay impropriator, when the vicarial glebe is let, and 1s. 6d. per acre is payable to the vicar when the glebe lands are let. The vicar has all the tithes upon Apton-hall, part of White-house, Biscowes, and part of New-hall, called Miller's corner. The rectorial tithes belonged to Thomas "Sly"* in 1768. They were afterwards the property of Thomas Laver, of Prittlewell Temple, and were sold during his life to the late Lieutenant-Col. Kersteman. The latter gentleman's executors sold them to Mr. Little (since deceased), of Llanvair Grange, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire.

The ridge of the hill upon which the village of Canewdon stands, together with the land upon its southern side, including Apton-hall and Scotts-hall, is good mixed soil; that upon the northern slope, extending from Norpitts and Scaldhurst to the Wick,

* This Thomas Slye was a magistrate, who lived at one period at Rochford Hall, and retired to Great Baddow, where he died, leaving his estates to his wife. He purchased the lease of Rochford Hall of Thomas Holt. The rent of the hall and farm at that period was £150 per annum. The Slyes originally came from the Isle of Ely. His father, Thomas Slye, whose wife's name was Cordelia, lived at Canewdon Hall in 1716. He died in 1740. The year that Holt died (1745) the price of wheat was 22s. per quarter.

with little variation, is heavy; the eastern part around Lambourne-hall, consists of a more convertible soil, but with veins of gravel and clay beneath. This part of the parish is pretty and park-like. The marshes are fair and good grazing ground. These marshes, including the greater part of Raypitts, Norpitts, together with Lands-end, part of Fambridge-hall, and a tract near the river, extending up to Brandy-hole, were embanked by Dutchmen, who held the same at low rents. The old wall in this parish, showing the ancient boundary, still exists, running parallel, about 10 rods to the north of the old fleet. It can be traced from Norpitts to Lion creek. The land so reclaimed and pastured was used for the rearing of colts, for which purpose certain portions of this neighbourhood, including Foulness, were at one time famous. Upon Gays farm is a field called Market-hill, but no market is mentioned by former historians, except a fair held on the 24th of June. This hill is about one mile from the high road.

The charitable donations to this parish have been considerable. Morant enumerates 73 acres lying within the parish as belonging to the poor, besides other lands chargeable with gifts; but this acreage has dwindled down at the present day to about 50 acres. Tradition says that some of the title deeds were wilfully destroyed to prevent the crown seizing the property, as, under a change of religion, gifts for certain purposes would become void. By so doing, as there was nothing then to show how the property was held, those that acted in this manner, put in claims on behalf of the poor. Certain of these ancient deeds are in the hands of the trustees. An account of the property recognized as belonging to the parish, may be seen on a board upon the wall of the church, as it was understood, let and divided in 1818, and the Charity Commissioners made a report in 1839. These reports are in some instances inaccurate, and

in others they either failed to discover certain charities, or make no mention of them. In this parish they are more reliable. The messuage and 40 acres of land in Southminster, called "Podds or Capels," commonly known as Conyndon lands, in Southminster, were bequeathed in the reign Edward III, and Salmon mentions the existence of the deeds. This property has dwindled down to 22 acres, 3 roods and 10 poles, all arable, upon which stands a barn, and was let in 1818 at £30, but since reduced to £20 per annum. There are fields in that vicinity, known by the name of Lost Lands, and within the parish, besides Cuppolds-croft, tradition points to Burnt-house field, near Gardeners (now belonging to Scotts-hall), and other land in that vicinity, as part of the missing property.

Two acres called "Spylfrenches," were given to the poor by William Hawshill and Thomas Hawkins in 1495. "Pogdens," in the time of Elizabeth, is mentioned in an inquisition under a commission for charitable uses. It consisted altogether of about six acres, formerly pasture, but now subdivided into arable land and garden ground, with a hovel built thereon.

"Finches Land," formerly consisting of 40 acres, in Canewdon, was given by Agnes Finch, widow. This property together with Cuppolds-croft, is mentioned in an indenture, dated 9th May, 10th Eliz. 1568, (enrolled in chancery). Thomas Bateman is there described as a surviving trustee. Care was directed to be taken that the woods thereon might be preserved, and that it should be let to no other persons than the poorest of the inhabitants of Canewdon, being aged and of good name, and able to manure the same. In an appointment of new trustees, dated 1613, it is directed that the overseers should receive the rent, and distribute the same to the deserving poor, and not to the drunken and idle; and it was further ordered that accounts of these rents should be yearly

rendered, and at the same time part of the indenture should be read in the church, and the party so reading should receive 2s. for his pains.

"Edwards Land," in Canewdon, is described in an indenture of lease, dated 8th May, 1568, as consisting of a messuage, garden, and 25 acres of land, and as having been conveyed to the poor of Canewdon from time immemorial.

"Cuppolds-croft," was originally given for the maintenance of a light in this church.

The charity of Richard Woodes has already been mentioned. Edward Hatchman and John Jennings were his executors. This Edward Hatchman and Withers Jennings, son of the above-named John Jennings, in consideration of the sum of £60, purchased, in 1715, of Ralph Desbrow the younger and Elizabeth his wife, and Ralph Desbrow the elder, a messuage and three crofts of land, called Gloucester Hamstalls and Crouch Acre, containing seven acres, situate in the parish of Much Stambridge, to be held to the use of the poor of Canewdon, and distributed according to the will of the said Richard Woodes. The land now comprises 6 acres and 31 poles. It is called Bread House Land, and is now in two closes, and upon part of it stands a boarded house, divided into three tenements. The rents of these lands are laid out in the purchase of bread, and distributed by the churchwardens. Copies of deeds relating to this charity are preserved in the parish chest, as well as others, and there exists a book and documents, that few can read, and probably full of interesting matter. They are contained in a curious old leather bag.

William Totham (of whose charity we first hear in the reign of Henry III) left certain lands in Canewdon, for the finding of an obit* within the church of Canewdon, bestowing upon the same the sum of 14d.,

* An obit was an office performed in the church at funerals, before the corpse was buried, and afterwards observed at the anniversary of the death of the founder or benefactor

and the residue of the profits for the benefit of the poor. His will was carried out until the second year of Edward VI, when it was presented by John Michell and others that the premises were given by the said William Totham for the above purpose; by reason whereof the king was entitled to the yearly rent of 14d., and not to any part of the said premises. Yet this John Michell purchased the estate of the Crown, notwithstanding the defect in the title, and expelled the feoffees therefrom. John Howseman, vicar of Canewdon, and Henry Baker long contested the matter, and by a decree of the Court of Chancery in 1557, a final award was made, whereby the said John Michell and his heirs for ever should hold the said premises, yielding yearly to the said John Howseman and his successors the yearly rent of £2 12s. 2d. to the use of the poor people, dwelling within the said parish, and to be distributed by the vicar and churchwardens for the time being. This rent, which is payable on the feasts of St. Thomas, St. Peter and St. Paul, proceeds from a farm called New Hall. No distinction is made on the ground of religious opinions in this distribution. A copy of this decree is in the parish chest, dated Philip and Mary in 1556.

Here was anciently a fraternity of St. Anne, that had an estate for lights and lamps, the overplus to be distributed in beans and herrings, to poor people in Lent. Morant says (in his time) this is given by the officers for the time being to the most indigent, that have been well brought up.

Here was also a guild of St. Margaret that had lands in this parish, and Hempsted and Elmsted, which were granted by letters patent, in 1592, to William Tipper and Robert Dawe. These guilds prior to the Reformation possessed their own palls, biers and other funeral appliances, and conducted the burials of their own members with great solemnity. Some were so well endowed, that they paid a guild priest to

celebrate mass daily in a chantry chapel for the souls of the founders, and to pray for the members of the fraternity, living and dead; and in all, the brethren aided one another in times of sickness and distress.

Our modern parochial benefit clubs are but a coarse caricature of these old parish guilds. The members had an annual feast, if not oftener, at the Guild-house, and on those days would hear mass at the altar of the patron saint of the guild. Wealthy guilds frequently also had a house where poor and aged members were provided with food and clothing. At the Reformation all these things were swept away. The Jesus Priest at Prittlewell appears to have been a guild priest, and had a chapel and maintenance, though all guilds were not rich enough to support a priest. It will be seen from this that the ecclesiastical polity and organization of the church in the middle ages was very grand. One clergyman now often does the work of three or four in former times, and two were not considered too many for Prittlewell 300 years ago.

Upon part of "Finches" is a building, formerly called the almshouse, and for many years used as a workhouse. It is situated near the pond at the east end of the village, and now let in five tenements. It is a curious old place, full of large beams. Some of the cottages are occupied rent free, and one acre, three roods, thirty-seven poles is let for allotment gardens. The rents arising from the various properties amount to £112 18s. 6d., which includes the ground rent of the mill. The charity commissioners report that the trustees at various periods have improperly expended sums, which should have been borne by the parish. The school-house, which was built in 1863, was partly built out of the poor's charity, and partly with £250 borrowed for that purpose. It includes a residence and garden appropriated to the free use of the school master, who receives £50 per annum out of the rents. The total cost of the schools was £607 13s. There

is a sum likewise set apart for the man in charge of the parish well, and for its reparation. The machinery used for pumping this well is by Braithwaite. It was dug about forty years ago, and is about 450 feet deep. The residue of the rents is distributed in money, bread, and coals. This modern distribution of the charities was made in consequence of an application to the Court of Chancery, when a new scheme of administration for the whole of the charities was sanctioned on the 13th of March, 1852, under the authority of the court.

The registers of this parish commence in 1636, but there are notes relating to 1598. At an early period there are records of whipping both men and women for vagrancy. In 1599 this punishment was inflicted in the presence of Thomas Newman the vicar, John Taylor, John Harris, and others. The delinquents were Henry Crowche, Alexander Mascall, and Joane Cockrill. In 1603 Joane Peason and William Peason suffered the same punishment; and one, James Guerdon, is mentioned as being brought up by the parish constable, Francis Barnes, in 1601. This was in accordance with an existing law, and probably was thought a mild punishment at that period, as former laws condemned vagrants to be sold as slaves, for a repetition of the offence.* In 1671 there was gathered

* The law referred to, enacted by the Parliament of King Edward VI, "of pious memory," for the suppression of mendicancy was of the most ferocious description. The statute I, Edward VI, c. 3, ordered that any person living idly or loiteringly for the space of three days should on being brought before a justice be marked as a vagabond with hot iron upon the breast and made a slave for two years to the informer; he was to be fed on refuse meat and the coarsest fare, and compelled to do any work however vile by beating, chaining, or otherwise. If he absented himself for fourteen days he was to be branded on the cheek or forehead with hot iron and adjudged a slave to his master for ever. If he ran away a second time he was to suffer death as a felon. These wretched slaves could be sold, bequeathed or be let on hire, and like dogs might have iron collars riveted round their necks by their owners, or rings of iron round their wrists and ankles. The dissolution of the monasteries and the plunder of the guilds, hospitals and other benevolent institutions had deprived the poor of the great sources of relief. They were reduced to the extremity of poverty, and these were some of the means adopted to suppress it. The King called it "an extreme law."

in this church twelve shillings towards the redemption of the captives in Algiers: Samuel Phillibrowne, curate. In 1681 (Edward Digby being curate) there was a gathering for the same object, and another towards the relief of the Protestants turned out of France.

There is a memorandum dated July 22nd, 1711, respecting the painting discovered over the south door in the church, of the legend of St. Christopher.

"The figure of gygantic size, and having on his shoulders a small image, a globe in his left hand, upon the globe a banner with a red cross, and on the right side of the gygantic monster, there was discovered a religious person at his devotion, holding in one hand a rodd, on the end of which hung a lanthorne, it is really my opinion the monster was painted for St. Christopher, and that the ribbe bone now kept in the chancel was put in the parish hands by some religious order of the church as a relique of St. Christopher, the better to deceive the poor."*

Witnesse my hand,

"Geo. Wheatley," Curate.

With respect to this "ribbe bone," tradition says it was taken away by a medical student, and never recovered, but there still exists an immense bone locked up in the chest, and shewn to visitors as the knee cap of a Dane, but which others assert does not belong to the human species. There are many similar paintings extant of St. Christopher, who was the patron saint of ferries; one was found on the wall of Feering church, and there is an ancient wood-cut picture in the British Museum of the figure of St. Christopher with the infant Jesus on his shoulder, and supporting his steps with an uprooted palm tree, and a monk who lights him across an arm of the sea, through

* Mr. Wheatley's conjecture is exceedingly improbable, especially as all relics and other objects of religious veneration, whether spurious or not, had been destroyed or taken away at the Reformation and again at the death of Queen Mary.

which he wades. This picture is pasted upon the under cover of a prayer book, which once belonged to the monastery of Buxheim, in the diocese of Augsburg. The legend of St. Christopher, was that of a giant miraculously converted to christianity, and that by his intercession all travellers and devout persons who looked upon his pictorial semblance were preserved from accidental or sudden death on that day. In conformity with this view people used to wear figures of St. Christopher in their caps.* Under the figure in the British Museum are lines which may be thus translated :—

“ Christopher's face when thou seest, that day
By no evil chance shall thy life pass away.”

There is every probability that when the walls of Canewdon church are cleansed from the white-wash, it will be found that the decorations are not confined to this particular subject.

The signature of Nehemiah Rogers, who was curate here in 1689, is on the first page of the registers, and his marriage in this church is also recorded.

Parsons, named in 1652.

Caleb Davy, of Goar Marsh in Wallasea Island, in 1681.

James Robinson, of Canewdon-hall, in 1681.

Edward Hatchman, of Scott's-hall, in 1682.

John Hatchman, of Little Doggetts, in 1682.

Anthony Guilder, of Lambourne-hall, in 1682.

John Britteridge, in 1682.

Andrews, of the Ferry-house, in 1683.

Thomas Crabbe, of Apton-hall, in 1684.

John Patricke, of Pudsey-hall, in 1684.

Richard Woods, of Scaldhurst, in 1685.

Thomas Beauty, of Pudsey-hall, in 1685.

Keys, mentioned in 1691. Catlin, in 1692.

John Rogers, in 1693. Thomas Ockendon, in 1702.

* The legend of St. Christopher in its original intention was a beautiful christian allegory, and from the pictured walls of the churches in an unlettered age, the people were instructed by the eye in the great truths of christianity, and in some of the more prominent articles of the Catholic faith. (See Mrs. Jameson's *Sacred and Legendary art* for an interpretation of the allegory of St. Christopher.)

E. Underhill, curate, in 1703. Thomas Sly, in 1703.

Withers Jennings, and Sumner, in 1703.

George, son of John Asser, in 1707, by Mary his wife.

John Spurgeon, of Scalders, 1709.

Duckett, in 1728. Peter Lodwick, in 1722.

Wheat-wall, now corrupted into Whitwell.

Mr. Michael Smyth, of St. Dunstan in the west, and Mrs. Elizabeth Macreth, of the parish of St. Martins in the fields, were married in Canewdon in 1674-5.

In 1667 are recorded the deaths of John Jonson, quaker, who died 18th October, and James Imman, quaker, who died November 6th. Underneath are the following doggrel verses :—

“Jonson the quaker, on the tenth of October
 Spoiled for a Speaker, was faint to give over ;
 The Spirit moved him with a new Sound greeting
 To meete with death, at a silent meeting,
 Where tis fear'd, for speaking too much before,
 He must sit Silent there, for evermore.
 He lived without the Church, without the Church he died,
 And of Church Rites, is justly now denied ;
 And without sigh or teare, or prayer said,
 Beast like in earth John Jonson now is laid.
 Fast after him goes Imman, James, another
 Of the quaking crue ; a Speaking Brother,
 Whose wife went before, that Holy Syster,
 All in such haste, as if the Devil mist her.
 Next with like speed, for there could be no lesse
 Post hast goes Thom Fritton to make up the messe.
 If die death thus robes thee of thy quakers,
 Poore Devil, what will thou doe for speikers.
 Thy Chappel sure will downe, thy Trade decay,
 Oh that God's Church may live to see that day.”

No name is appended, but the uncharitable and intolerant spirit of the writer is painfully apparent.

In 1678 “Catherine Cowper was buried in the chancell.”

The earliest vicar of this parish on record was Peter de Westham, who was chaplain to Henry III. That king by reason of the See of London being vacant,

nominated him to the prior and convent of Prittlewell to be presented, and admitted. Edward III issued his royal mandate to the prior and convent, to present Hugo de Wakefeld in 1361. John Howseman was presented to this living by Bonner, Bishop of London in 1554. He is said to have been a persecutor of those of the reformed faith in Queen Mary's days. In Strype's Life of Bishop Aylmer, speaking of the year 1585, he says that the Bishop brought an action against John Howseman, who had been vicar thirty years, whose right to the vicarage he disputed, but does not say how the action terminated. Elener was his curate. Howseman's efforts in support of the rights of the poor, respecting Totham's charity, have already been mentioned. Thomas Newman was collated to this vicarage by the Bishop of London in 1588, but by reason of Queen Elizabeth (who loved to finger Bishop's lands) having previously granted the advowson of this vicarage to Edward Downing and Miles Dodding, of London, who soon afterwards granted the same to Augustine Steward, the Bishop was fain to institute the said Newman, *de novo*, at the presentation of the said Steward, to own thereby the said Steward's patronage, and to secure Newman's title. Newman matriculated as sizer of Queen's College, Cambridge, November, 1568, and migrated to Trinity, and became B.A. in 1571-2, and commenced M.A. in 1575. In 1593 he was appointed vicar of Stanstead Abbots, Herts, which living he resigned in 1597. He was presented to the living of South Fambridge in 1601, by Anna Osborne, widow, and died in 1609-10. He was author of a congratulatory epistle to John Keltridge (puritan), upon his exposition of the 11th of Luke, and dated Cambridge, June 2, 1578.

Robert Cotesford was presented to this living in 1629. A long account of him is given in Pigot's history of Hadleigh in Suffolk, and also a notice in

Wood's Athen. Ox. He was elected fellow of Queen's College in 1633, being a Suffolk man, and became S.T.P. in 1636, and collated to the Prebendary of Hoxton, 12th of September, 1638. He was afterwards Doctor of Divinity. He resigned the living of Canewdon in 1630, and became Rector of Hadleigh* and Monks Ely in the county of Suffolk. He was deprived of these preferments by a committee for Religion, by Parliament in 1643, and suffered much for the royal cause. His opponents left some account of him in a book entitled *First Century of Scandalous and Malignant Priests*. He is supposed to be the same Dr. Cotesford, who was the son of Amie Robinson, half-sister to William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury. His death probably took place before the restoration, as Thomas Holbeach succeeded to his Prebendary of Hoxton 23rd of August, 1660, per mort Cottesford.

He was succeeded in the living of Canewdon by Elizeus Burges, S.T.B. He was of St. John's College, Oxford, and Bachelor of Divinity, Archdeacon of Rochester, and Rector of Southfleet in Kent, and collated to a Prebendary in Ely in 1630. He had his living sequestrated in 1644 for non-residence, pluralities, and amongst other matters for refusing to pay the assessments ordered by the Parliament. He died about the end of the year 1652, and was buried at Southfleet.†

The immediate successor of Burges was John Forward, but he did not long retain the incumbency, as James Norris was Vicar in 1650. This James Norris wrote two poetical epistles, the one in Latin,

* Pigot tells us that after the sermon, on Christmas day (1641) Dr. Cotesford having heard of a design to pluck up the rails around the communion table, entered within the enclosure, and drawing out a stiletto, threatened to stab any one who durst remove them, although he himself should die. His courage had the desired effect for that time, but the rails were pulled up upon the following day.

† This is a quotation from Bentham's Ely, but no monument to his memory is to be found at Southfleet, or any entry of his death in those registers.

and the other in English, prefixed to the Rev. Samuel Purchas's* History of Bees, or a Theatre of Political Flying Insects.

Jonathan Devereux seems to have succeeded Norris at Canewdon. One of that name formerly held the living of Gateshead, in the county of Durham, to which he was presented in 1645. At the restoration he conformed.

Edward Webster obtained this living in 1670. He married a daughter, or some near relation of Dr. Fleetwood, Bishop of Worcester, who presented him to the church of St. Mary, Newington, near Southwark, upon which he resigned this cure.

Charles Tyrell, A.M., was vicar in 1692, and died in 1695-6. He was likewise Rector of Sutton, and was buried at Shopland, where a mural tablet upon the south wall of that chancel, is erected to his memory, with an inscription in Latin.† He was a native of Bury St. Edmunds in Suffolk, and a descendant of Tyrell of Gipping, in that county, a cadet of the Tyrell's of Heron. His family possessed the estate of Beauchamps, in Shopland, were lay impropiators of the rectorial tithes of that parish, not only on the mainland but those in Foulness, for several generations, and were likewise owners of Chalkwell-hall, in Prittlewell.

His successor at Canewdon was John Lister, who was also rector of Rochford, and died in 1735. The Rev. George Walker, M.A., was the next vicar of Canewdon, and built the present Vicarage-house in the year 1758. He was canon residentiary of St. Pauls, and likewise rector of Paglesham. He died in 1771, aged 69. In the body of the church is a stone to the memory of Rev. John Blakiston, vicar of this parish, who died in 1784, and his wife Frances, who died in 1780, aged 60 years.

* Rector of Sutton.

† For this inscription see Shopland.

Randolph, brother of John Randolph, Bishop of London, resigned this living in 1811, in favour of the Rev. William Atkinson, M.A., who had been curate fourteen years. The latter died 24th of March, 1847, aged 81. He was altogether fifty years minister, during 36 of which he was vicar. A mural tablet is erected to his memory on the north wall of the chancel, and another to his only son Thomas, a Russian merchant, born at Canewdon, April 6th, 1802, who died in London in 1867. The remains of Rev. W. Atkinson and his family rest in the church-yard at the north end of the chancel, where there are inscriptions upon numerous stones, surrounded by an iron railing. His first wife, Martha Ann, died in 1839, and his second, Mary Ann, was sister of the late Jeremiah Kersteman, of Loftmans. By the latter lady he had no children. One of his daughters, Martha Ann, was the first wife of the late Rev. W. C. R. Ray, vicar of Eastwood. She died in 1837, aged 30 years, and was interred here. Atkinson was a man of Herculean build and size; his hand was something tremendous to grasp. He was by birth a Yorkshireman (a native of Settle), and he was much liked for his quiet and unostentatious manners, and his desire to be at peace with everyone. He had seen the time when pluralities were in full vogue; when curates were ill-paid and over-worked; and he passed through the times of transition from immoderate and compulsory drinking, to that period when everyone is allowed to imbibe the quantity his constitution requires. An anecdote is told of him, that in his youth, he once served a curacy for £40 per annum; and upon appealing to a high dignitary, that worthy, who enjoyed his thousands, took occasion in an assembly of divines, in a pompous and drawling tone, to address him thus, "Mr. Atkinson, I have considered your case, and have decided your stipend shall in future be 40 guineas per annum instead of £40:" adding "that he hoped he would now be perfectly satisfied."

He once had a difficulty with a tithe payer about his composition, and considering his demand reasonable, he said, "Well, friend, if it is not worth so and so, I will not take anything." No further cavil was made, and the payment agreed upon. Living in a Hundred, thought to require it, he was a believer in the virtues and necessities of red port, and owing to his muscular and constitutional development, he could imbibe as much as most men, without injurious effects. He always preferred it new and full bodied, and drawn from the cask, which office he generally performed himself. As age and infirmities grew upon him, a near relative thinking less stimulant would be better, executed a stratagem, by seizing an opportunity when descending the cellar stairs for the same purpose, to slip, and shatter the old cherished jug, which had done duty for years. With commendable zeal she furnished him with another, but a shade smaller. The vicar kept his own counsel, but in a short time he likewise had a slip, and another breakage ensued, but this time he replaced it with a vessel, that was more capacious than the original. A cask of this wine of excellent quality, was sold at his sale, but required many years to bring it to perfection. It was introduced to guests as "old Atkinson." His memory is still fondly cherished in the village for several estimable qualities, including succour to the needy. The day that his mortal remains were consigned to the tomb, was marked by a brutal murder committed in Doggetts-lane, near Hyde wood, by a youth, who subsequently died in prison. The victim was an old man, and the weapon a hoe stick. The price of blood was a watch and a shilling.

Atkinson was succeeded in the living by the present incumbent the Rev. George Heath, M.A., whose eldest sister was first wife to the late Bishop Blomfield. Heath migrated from Kemblington, in Norfolk, and he is first cousin to William Heath, of Ludham-hall,

in Norfolk, a large and successful gainer of prizes at the Smithfield cattle show. His first wife's name was Frances Nelson Cooper,* by whom he has several children. His present wife, Harriet, was a daughter of the Rev. John Nottidge, rector of East Hanningfield, and widow of the Rev. Henry King, curate of Kirby Moorside, in Yorkshire. The living of Canewdon is now in the gift of the Bishop of Peterborough.

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and consists of a body and north aisle, 62 feet long and 36 broad. The chancel had formerly a chapel or vestry on the north side, in length 36 feet, and 19 in breadth. The right of patronage was of old in the Prior and Convent of Prittlewell, upon whom that privilege was conferred by Robert de Essex, son of Suene. In 1241 a *Quo warranto* was brought against the Prior to enquire by what authority he held the advowson of "Kenewdon" church, escheated to the king. He answered, that this right was confirmed by Henry II. He produced the charter of Henry de Essex, of Gilbert Foliot, Bishop of London, and of Giles de Chanceaux. About the year 1231, the Prior and Convent empowered Roger Niger, Bishop of London, to ordain a vicarage, which he did, reserving the nomination of the vicar to himself and his successors—Bishops of London. From the tower, which attains an altitude of 74 feet, an extensive view is obtained of the surrounding country. Visitors are told with truth that seven *hundred* churches are to be seen from its summit. A tradition exists, and is believed by many, that so long as this steeple exists, there will always remain six witches in Canewdon.† It contains five bells.

* Her sister married Stephen Jones Woodthorpe, of Lower Hookley-hall.

† In 1571 the parliament passed a law against witchcraft, the penalty being death, without benefit of clergy and sanctuary. For generations the upper classes as well as the clergy were imbued with this superstition, and the annals of this kingdom relate many judicial murders for this supposed crime. The victims were generally women.

Upon the treble bell is inscribed :—

1. "John and Christopher Hodson made me 1678. De. Dedit. Edvardus Webster. Vicarius Ecclesiæ De Cannewdon.

2. R. Philips, Fecit 1724. Edward Hackman, John Clayton, Church Wardens.

3. Miles Graye Made me 1634."

Upon the tenor or great bell is inscribed :—

4. "1707. Richard Edwards. Wethr Jennens. G W. J W.

5. Thomas Mears, Late Lester Pack & Chapman of London. Fecit 1791. John Pace & Robert Tabrum, Church Wardens."

This bell previously to its being suspended, was turned upside down in the street, before the Anchor public-house, and filled with beer, with which the rustics made merry.*

On the outside of the steeple are sculptured the arms of France and England quarterly, and other shields of Bohun, Mowbray and Warren, but they are almost effaced by time. There are niches for statues over the arch of the tower door and in the buttresses. The south porch is about the period of Edward IV, and is of stone, with embattled front. Roman tiles are worked up with the materials, both here and on the south side of the church. "G. M. R. S., Churchwardens," are carved on a beam on the roof of the porch. Upon the floor is a slab, about Henry VIIIth's time, and the whole is paved with similar sepulchral remains. On one of the corbels of the label of the north arcade, a figure bears the arms of Chanceaux, a chevron between three anulets; another carved upon the same pillar, suspended from the neck of a bird, a shield lozengy (or charged with six lozenges, 2, 3, 1). The arms of Chanceaux are also carved on the wall of the chancel. A similar

* In ancient times bells were solemnly dedicated with a religious service popularly called the "Baptism of Bells." They were named and generally inscribed with an invocation to some saint or a text from Holy writ, &c. "*Sit nomen Domini benedictum*" (Blessed be the name of the Lord) was not uncommon. Since the Reformation they have been chiefly dedicated to the praise and honour of churchwardens and bell-founders, who delighted to have their own names cast thereon, and often some vulgar doggerel as well. Religious services at the dedication of new bells have in many places been revived. At Canewdon in the last century nothing more appropriate could be suggested than this heathenish "baptism" and copious libations of beer.

escutcheon is to be seen on the steeple of Much Hadham, in Hertfordshire, and in the chancel of Little Hadham. The figure and bird, before alluded to, were entire and in capital preservation until about 30 years ago. A great deal of mischief has been ascribed to the excesses committed at the Reformation and the Rebellion, but the damage here complained of is stated to have been done by a fanatic at a later period. The present sexton, whilst engaged in his duties in the church, discovered a man dressed in the garb of a gentleman, in the act of chipping the heads and wings of these figures with a chisel and hammer. Upon being remonstrated with he replied he had a commission for the act, and walked away, and, strange to say, was never discovered or brought to justice. There were formerly a great many monuments in this church, to the memory of owners of lordships in this parish, but Weever tells us they had been so shamefully abused in his time, they could not be discerned. The windows formerly contained the arms and quarterings of the families of Lambourne, De Chanceaux, Paulett and others, long since destroyed. Upon the latch of the southern door are the initials J.S. and T.S.; the lock is of great antiquity, and the key about a foot in length. The pulpit, in the Jacobian style, is of oak, but disfigured with paint. There is a squint or hagioscope from the east end of the north aisle through the jamb of the chancel window, which enabled the elevation of the Host to be discerned. In this aisle, a chapel apparently existed in former times. A large credence table is in the south wall of the chancel. At the west end of the nave exists a remnant of the old benches with poppy head finials. On a beam is the date 1698. There are two varieties of fern growing upon the church, viz., the *Asplenium Trichomanes* and the *Polypodium Vulgare*. Upon the tower is a Pellitory (*Parietaria officinalis*), a local plant that is used in medicine as an emollient, and which some contend is an antidote for the dropsy.

In the parish chests are preserved two curious and very ancient alms boxes, with much iron about them. One is a long flat box, with a card nailed thereon, but the writing is illegible. The other box is in the shape of a jar, and has a chain attached to it, and is about eight inches high, and a foot in circumference, with a concave top. A certain portion of the fence surrounding the church-yard was formerly repaired by the owner of Canewdon-hall, but upon his demurring, and the parish finding that the expense of contesting the matter would be much greater than the required outlay, agreed that the charge should be defrayed out of the rates, but the brick portion next the vicarage grounds is repaired by the incumbent. Human bones have been found beneath the soil, on the outside of the west wall of the church-yard, and may possibly be the remains of the poor quakers, and other excommunicate persons. The north-west corner has always been considered the most eligible for interments, on account of the subsoil being dry, and here the tombstones are most thickly clustered.

Within the church, upon the floor of the nave, is an inscription to the memory of William Mew, who departed this life May 26th, 1846, aged 76 years. Also of John Mew, who died April 14th, 1850, aged 83 years. In the church-yard is a stone inscribed to the memory of John Brown, who died in 1764, aged 64 years: he lived at New-hall in this parish. There is another to the memory of William Beck, who died in 1755, aged 52, and Susanna his wife, who died in 1766. Tradition says he was in some way connected with the charities. Upon this tomb are the following eulogistic lines:—

“Here lies a couple, good without pretence,
Blest with plain reason and with sober sense,
Passion and pride were to their souls unknown,
What they gave, it truly was their own.”

A stone to the memory of John Alleyne, who died March 30th, 1691, aged 46. One to Mary Bishop, late wife of John Allen, who died in 1709, aged 61;

and a brick altar tomb to John Bishop, of this parish, who died in 1709, ætat 80. A stone to the memory of Elizabeth Spurgeon, who died January 1st, 1797, aged 81 years. To Matilda Kersteman, who died in 1802, aged 21. To Richard Davenport Kersteman, who died in 1795, aged 14. To James Wyatt, who died in 1790, aged 30. To Jeremiah Kersteman Lodwick, who died in 1826, aged 40, and to Eliza Frost, his relict, who died in 1861, aged 78 years, third daughter of Jeremiah Kersteman, of Loftmans. To Sarah, wife of Thomas Kersteman, who died in 1771; Thomas, her husband, who died in 1777, and Thomas, their son. To Pyke Burleigh, who died at Rochford, October 7th, 1865, aged 69 years: he was formerly an inhabitant of Cambridge. To Louisa Hayward, relict of W. H. Hayward, daughter of J. Kersteman, who died in 1846, aged 62 years. There is a stone broken in several pieces, part of which is in the church; upon it is an inscription to the memory of Jane, widow of the Rev. Francis Horatio Festing, vicar of Winsham, Somerset, who died in 1844, aged 79. There is a stone to the memory of Ralph Taylor, late of Shenfield, who died in 1826, in the 32nd year of his age. Another to John Thompson, formerly of Frettingham, of the county of Norfolk, and late of this parish, who died in 1825, aged 89 years. To Samuel Wade, who died in 1813, aged 55 years. To Mary Dearsley, who died in 1773. To John Staines, in 1782. To William Guiver Potter. To Edward Kilworth, who died in 1807, aged 70 years. To John Solmes, in 1759. The Stebbings, Whitwells, Guivers, Potters and Summers, have likewise stones to their memories. One to Ann Rogers, wife of John Rogers, in 1727-8, aged 66 years. To Zachariah Lewis, who died in 1795. To John Onion, in 1809. There is likewise an altar tomb, surrounded by iron railing, to the memory of Robert Tabrum, aged 56 years, who died in 1795.

Upon the north side of the street is a chapel of the

Wesleyan Independents, but without endowment. It was built as directed by the will of Timothy Natrass in 1833. The site for that purpose was sold by Michael Comport. It is copyhold of the manor of Canewdon-hall, and pays a nominal rent of one shilling per annum to the owner of Barbers, Mr. Offord.

The visitor to Canewdon (with a right thinking mind) in taking a stroll through the village, viewing its cottages, and its magnificent church in its decay, cannot be long in coming to the conclusion that the apathy of churchmen and landowners in the last century has been great. The street is narrow, and the houses, for the most part, encroachments on the public road, some of them unfit for human habitation; and being clustered together, are long distances from many of the estates, where the labour of their occupants is required. Tradition speaks of a time when poor rates were almost unknown; and that to make a rate, one Clay was provided with a suit of leather; since which period a population arose (probably attracted by the charities) that became a burthen, but now it is doubtful whether the number of labourers is equal to the demand. The qualities of the soil are yet to be developed, the crust in many instances, has as yet only been broken, and its subsoil is undisturbed; the habits and tastes of its population are yet to be raised and elevated by other appliances and resources than those at present within their reach. Although tradition speaks of a public play ground, few recreations either bodily or mental are now provided for the people, except those enjoyments afforded by the public houses. The new school may be the foundation of a happier state of things, and Canewdon may yet regain that position in the Hundred, which there is every probability she once possessed.

NOTE.—In explanation of the quantity of land, said by the old historians to be contained within the Danish camp, it will be found that Duckett's mead, together with the pond and gravel pit, contains 5 acres, 3 roods and 13 poles. Taking out the gravel pit (formerly in Butt's-hill) and adding the site of the fortified mansion (called by Weever, Canuti Domus), enclosed by the double fosse, would give the 6 acres mentioned by former writers.

EASTWOOD.

LANDOWNERS—FAMILY OF VASSAL—CHURCH—CLERGY—
SUDBURY'S CHARITY, &c.

EASTWOOD is written in old records, Estuud and Estwd. It is supposed to have derived its name from its situation with respect to the woods and parks of Rayleigh and Thundersley. In the enumeration of the chattels belonging to this tenure in Domesday, consisting of hogs, horses, beast, servants, &c., mention is made of a mill. In the reign of Edward the Confessor this lordship belonged to Robert de Essex, son of Wimarc. Suene, son of this Robert, was in possession at the period of the Norman invasion, and it descended to his cowardly grandson, Henry de Essex, who forfeited it to the crown. The first family to whom it was granted after this event, took the surname of De Estwood, for in 1210 and 1211 Robert de Estwood held one fee of the honor of Rayleigh. The crown again coming into possession, Henry III granted it in 1226 to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, with the hundred of Rochford and honor of Raley. Margaret his widow, Countess of Kent, died possessed of it in 1260, and was succeeded by John de Burgh, her husband's eldest son (by his first wife Margaret de Arsike), who in 1274 granted it to Edward I, receiving an exchange.* In 1340, Edward III granted it to William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton, and his heirs male. His son Humfrey afterwards had it, and leaving only two daughters, this estate again devolved to the crown.

* For an account of this transaction, see Rayleigh.

In 1380, Richard II gave it to Alberic de Vere, the tenth Earl of Oxford, for life. Previous to his decease, which happened in 1400, the same king granted the reversion of it to his uncle, Edmund de Langley, Duke of York, the fifth son of Edward III, who died in possession, as did likewise his son Edward, Duke of York, who was killed at the battle of Agincourt in 1415. Philippa, his widow, enjoyed a third part of it until her decease in 1431. Richard, Duke of York (defeated by Margaret of Anjou, and killed at the battle of Wakefield),* nephew of the last Edward, and father of Edward IV, is said to have had it afterwards. Edward VI, in 1551, granted this manor of Eastwood-bury, *alias* Eastwood, to Richard, Lord Riche, and his heirs. He transmitted it to his descendants, Earls of Warwick. The last Earl died in 1673, and the Lady Essex one of his co-heiresses, conveyed it to her husband, Daniel, Earl of Nottingham, who sold it to Robert Bristow. This manor and estate remained with his descendants until a very recent period. The property in this hundred of the present Robert Bristow† of Broxmore Park, Wiltshire, was submitted to auction in Tokenhouse-yard, Lothbury, on the 6th of November, 1866, in 22 lots, and Eastwood-bury, together with the manor and rectorial glebe, were subsequently purchased by John Waylett Stallibrass, the present owner, who has resided for some years upon the estate. The present house was erected during the tenancy of the late William Weld Wren.

“Barrow-hall” otherwise “Breg-hall” is another manor, derived from Suene’s manor of Estwood. It is called West Barrow-hall, to distinguish it from the

* The spot where he fell is still fenced off in a corner of a field near Sandal.

† For a more particular account of this family, see Rayleigh and South Shoebury.

other Barrow-hall* in Little Wakering. A family seems to have taken their surname from this place, for Stephen de Berwes, who was hanged for felony in the reign of Edward I, held a messuage and eighty acres of land in Rocheford, of Sir John de Rocheford. Philip Perdrix, of Flete-hall, in Sutton, who died in 1313, held this estate, upon which was a capital messuage. His heir was John Heveningham. Several members of this family obtained the honor of knighthood, and Sir Antony, in 1557, sold this estate to Richard Smart, of Ipswich. Thomas Emery, who died in 1618, held this manor, and various property in this hundred, of the honor of Rayleigh; also Alford-nashe-marsh, in Wallet Island, within this parish. He was likewise a landowner in Little Baddow, Danbury, &c. This estate was afterwards in Mr. Perkins' possession, who resided here. His son sold it in parcels, viz., Barrow-hall to Gilbert "Macmordy," of Rochford, and the part in Wallet or Wallasea Island to Ralph Coker† of Burnham. West-Barrow-hall was subsequently in the Macmurdo family, of Clapton, descendants of "Macmordy," and was purchased of them in the early part of the present century by Michael Saward§ of Thorpe-hall, in Southchurch,

* MORANT places this Barrow-hall in Great Wakering. This is an error, as the house and all the land appertaining to it, are in Little Wakering parish.

† Ralph Coker was Overseer in 1706.

§ This Michael Saward commenced life by holding the Great Bury farm at Laindon-hills, and in 1799 he hired Thorp-hall, in Southchurch, of the Burges family, where he accumulated considerable property. He owned three farms in Eastwood, viz., West Barrow-hall, Symon Channells, the Wood farm, and house property in Rochford, Prittlewell, and Southchurch, and held Runwell-hall conjointly with his son, the present Michael Saward, of Leslie Lodge, Croydon. He was son of Michael Saward who died in 1781, aged 46 years, and Ann his wife (whose maiden name was Hales, of Kent). This last-named Michael Saward had four sons—*Michael*, the subject of this notice, Christopher, and John, both of whom died young, and William who farmed largely at South Ockendon, and died there, about 1835, aged 36 years. *Michael*, the eldest son, married about 1788 Mary Boreham, of Thundersley, by whom he had thirteen children, but only four of whom attained the age of puberty, viz., Rachel, who died in 1837 and was buried at Croydon; Rebecca, who married Captain Robert Scallon, R.N,

who died December 21st, 1815, aged 55 years. He left West Barrow-hall and Wood farm to his eldest son, Michael, subject to the payment of four annuities of £100 each to his sisters. These farms were sold in 1820, subject to the annuities, to Mr. Anstey of 1, Russell-square, London, and he, on his death, left them to his son, the Rev. Arthur Anstey. He is likewise dead, and they have now devolved to his son. West Barrow-hall pays a quit rent to the Lawless Court of 15s. 10d. yearly.

"Wood Farm" was the original inheritance of the Sawards, who owned and occupied it for several generations, but was sold, and re-purchased by Michael Seward of Thorp-hall, in 1809, of a Mr. Page. A field on this farm was planted with sun-flowers some years ago.

"Symon Channells," a small farm on Nobles-green, belonged in 1755 to Joanna Maria Dawson, who was admitted to her freebench on the death of her husband. In 1757 Dawson, their heir-at-law, sold the estate to Saffory. In 1777 Thomas Saffory sold it to John Lodwick of North Shoebury. In 1810 Lodwick sold it to Michael Seward. In 1821 there was a chancery suit to administer Seward's estate. In 1824 there was a sale under decree to Alliston, who was admitted

and died a widow at Lewisham in 1857, and was buried there; Michael, who married in 1832 Harriette, daughter of the Rev. John Sumner, rector of Sutton; and Elizabeth, who married Captain Charles Haultain, R.N., and is now a widow residing at Southend.

Michael Seward's first wife, Mary Boreham, died in 1809. His second wife was named Sarah, who survived him, and died in 1820. He left two children by her, viz., Sarah Ann, who married her cousin William Seward, of Grays-hall, and George Frederick, now living in America.

Michael Seward, of Thorp-hall, lies buried in a vault on the south side of Southchurch church, together with his wives Mary and Sarah, and several children. Captain Scallon and two of his children are likewise interred there. There are four stones likewise to the memory of this family adjacent, of which, two belong to the father and mother of the above Michael.

The Sawards who owned Gusted-hall, and are buried at Rochford, were a branch of this family. The name Seward is derived from the old Norse appellation of Siward, Seward, &c.

For an account of the Sumner family, see Southchurch.

in 1825. In 1844 it was purchased by Thomas Merryfield of Great Doggetts, and it now belongs to his family.

"Walkers" (adjoining the last property), and a small portion of the same estate called "Dandies" which extends into Rochford, belonged in 1776 to Mr. John Lorkin, of London, on whose death the property became vested in George Davis Carr, and afterwards in the Rev. Thomas Gregory Warren Walker, on whose death it was sold in 1838 to the late Thomas Merryfield, who died March 15th, 1847, aged 57 years. His first wife Mary Ann died Nov. 6th, 1836, aged 45 years, and they were both buried at Rochford. His second wife was a Mary Ann Taylor, only daughter of Edmund Taylor, formerly of Battlesbridge, who survived him, and married John Barnard, of Olives, near Dunmow.

"Eastwood-lodge" farm, judging from the map of Norden, executed in 1594, and that of Speed, published in 1676, appears to have been the centre of the last reserved portion of Rayleigh park. The house is laid down in Norden, and corresponds with the present site. It was probably in the crown in the reign of Henry VIII, for amongst the "Privy Purse expenses" of that monarch, edited by N. H. Nicolas in 1827, we read, page 16,—"*January 1530, 10th, Item, the same daye paied to one that brought quicke dere pro Raylaye for to replenishe grenewiche parke xxx^s;*" and again, page 19—"*Item the xxij daye paied to purton, yoman of the foyles, for taking dere in Raylaye and for cariage, xxvj^s. viij^d.*" In some old histories a picture is given of Eastwood-lodge, representing an old quadrangular building. The present house was erected over the old cellars, the original chimnies being retained with a small portion of the ancient building. Upon the wall descending to the cellar and in one of the passages, are some remains of oak wainscoting, and in the cellars themselves are

several niches with ornamented stone coping, about one foot high by nine inches wide, of a similar construction to those seen in garden walls. In one of the bedrooms the tiled hearth is still in existence, with oaken kerb seven feet three inches in length. Part of the old garden walls were demolished about 50 years ago, and the materials used for the stables, &c. In 1705, one John Richardson, lived at Park-lodge (so called in the rate book), who was overseer that year. In 1728 it was tenanted by Thomas Holt, and rated at £100. At that period it must have been considered of greater importance than at present, for in 1735 that part of "Colemans" in this parish was rated at only £18, the "Bury farm" and woods at £106; whilst Coxde-heart, held by Vassall in 1720, was rated £30, Barrow-hall at £60, and Bell-house and woods at £22. Eastwood-lodge together with Edwards-hall, were formerly in the Bury family, who lived at one period at "Eastwood-bury," and a document exists (lately among the Bristow papers), being an indenture made the 12th day of July, 1617, whereby the Right Honorable Robert Lord Rich, Baron of Leez, granted to Bradford Bury,* Esq., a yearly rent of five shillings, to be paid out of the manor of Earls-hall in Prittlewell. In the preamble of this indenture it states that "Bury had stopped the passage through the park, situated in Rayleigh and Eastwood (between the towns of those parishes), to the great annoyance and grief of the inhabitants, contending that it was a private way, and not public, but that there used to be paid to himself and his ancestors, owners of the same park, a yearly rent of five shillings per annum, by the owners of certain lands in Prittlewell, whereof the same Lord Rich is now owner. In consequence of this stoppage, a presentment respecting the same was

* A Bradford Bury was buried in the chancel of Little Wakering church, who died in 1675. He lived at Little Wakering Hall. For the inscription on his tomb, see Little Wakering.

made at a Quarter Sessions holden for the county of Essex, which presentment was removed into His Majesty's Court of the King's Bench at Westminster; and at an assize holden at Chelmsford, before Sir Henry Hubart, knight and baronet, and Sir Robert Laughton, knight, the cause was tried, and it was proved by many aged witnesses that the way through the said Rayleigh park was an ancient common highway for all His Majesty's liege people, with horses, draughts, carts, waynes, carriages, drifts of cattle on foot or otherwise, wherefore the jury gave up their verdict against the said Bradford Bury, but whereas the said Bradford Bury alleged that Lord Rich and his ancestors, and those whose estate he, the said Lord Rich, now possessed, had formerly paid for, and in respect of the said way, to him and his ancestors (owners of Rayleigh-park) the annual sum of five shillings, which had been in arrear divers years; thereupon to avoid further strife and trouble about the said way, the Lord Chief Justice Sir Henry Hubart desired Lord Rich that he would assure five shillings yearly rents unto the said Bradford Bury, and his heirs for ever, and charge some of his farms lying near to the said Rayleigh-park therewith." The indenture goes on to state that Lord Rich was acquitted of all arrears, and that "Bury covenanted to allow all Rich's tenants and others to frequent the said highway, without any lawful let, barre, estoppage, hindrance, or controlment, upon Rich's granting the said sum of five shillings to be paid for ever to Bury, his heirs or assigns, by the bailiff of his manor of Earls-hall, which latter manor he charged with the payment, and he gave Bury possession and seizin of this rent, by delivering unto him a piece of silver called a groat. This indenture was sealed and delivered in the presence of Pet. Plesaunt, Rich. Pulley, and Tho. Hopkins."

Henry Bury,* who was a successor of Bradford Bury, and a man of considerable landed property in Raleigh and Eastwood (including, in the latter parish, 130 acres of wood), by his will (a copy of which is preserved with the title deeds of the estates referred to) made the 15th August, 1680, to which one of the Kingsmans was witness, bequeathed great Lodge farm, Edwards-hall, and a large tract of wood land in Eastwood, besides White-house, Lime-house, and a wind-mill in Rayleigh, to his eldest son Edward Bury; to his daughter Henrietta, £500 and an annuity. His younger son John was provided for in a similar manner to his sister.

“Franks, Park-gate, Little-lodge, Ploughs-rooms, and Hares-grounds,” were owned in later times by this family. They sold certain of these estates to the family of Kingsman. These Kingsmans had law-suits internecine. By a decree of the Court of Chancery in 1695, Jasper Kingsman, of Horndon-on-the-hill, and of the Middle Temple, was put into possession of Great Lodge farm and Edward’s-hall, in Eastwood, and Little Lodge farm, Lime-house farm, White-house, Mill-house, and Mill-stead, in Rayleigh. He died in 1704, aged 86 years, and devised his estates (his son Jasper having died in 1686) to Josiah Kingsman, of Burnham, his executor, and his sons Josiah, Benjamin and Jasper, in-tail male, successively, and made Josiah residuary legatee. Josiah, the father, died in 1719, aged 63, and Josiah his son, in 1735, aged 46 years.† The estates were in this family for a lengthened period, as White-house, in Rayleigh, was in Jasper Kingsman, of Stifford, in 1770, and Lime-house, in Rayleigh, in 1778. This family had certain differences, owing to claims upon the estate by different members, arising from the will

* According to the registers, his wife Mary died in 1685.

† Inscriptions to these Kingsmans are to be found in the chancel of Horndon-on-the-hill.

of Josiah, of Burnham. Lime-house and White-house in Rayleigh,* together with Eastwood-lodge, subsequently passed into the family of Stonehewer. Upon the male branch becoming extinct, these estates became the property of Stonehewer Scott, nephew of the last owner, who was in possession in 1821, and took the name of Stonehewer. At his death, his brother William Scott (of 38, Albany-villas, Cliftonville, Hove, near Brighton) inherited the estates, and the same patronymic. He was in possession in 1825, and died the 23rd April, 1864, intestate. He married Annabella Hodgson, and the marriage settlement is dated 1817. He was succeeded in the estates by his son William Scott Stonehewer, of Adur-lodge, Old Shoreham, Sussex.

“Upper and Lower Edwards-hall” belonged to the Harridge family, as late as 1817, when Thomas Harridge, of Rayleigh, (formerly of Leigh, wine merchant) sold that portion north of the road leading from Eastwood to Rayleigh, now known as Upper Edwards-hall, to the trustees of the Benfleet charity, and that portion lying to the south of the said road (where the new house is built), known as Lower Edwards-hall, to the trustees of King James’s charity. These charities belong to the parish of Enfield.

“Garlands,” according to the parish books, was tenanted in 1728 by a Mrs. Jackson, who was probably owner, for we find that upon 16th April, 1751, John Wright, Thomas Richardson, and Elizabeth “Asplen” were admitted as co-heirs of Ruth Tanner formerly Ruth Jackson: John Wright being the grandson of Frances Wright, formerly Frances Jackson, sister of Ruth Tanner; Thomas Richardson being grandson of Anna Richardson, formerly Anna Jackson, another sister of Ruth Tanner, and Elizabeth “Asplen” being daughter of Susannah Woodfield, formerly Susannah

* For an account of the discovery of Roman denarii on this farm, see Rayleigh.

Jackson, a third sister of Ruth Tanner. This Elizabeth Asplin was resident at Little Wakering-hall in 1753, and her rights were transmitted to her son Francis* Asplin, of the same place. His wife Mary (whose maiden name was Kennett) died October 23rd, 1835, aged 82 years. The estate has since been in his sons, Charles Asplin,† of Wakering-hall, who died May 2nd, 1864, aged 79, and Peter Asplin, of Blue-house, West Tilbury. The share of the latter was purchased after his decease by his brother Charles, and the estate now belongs to Margaret Asplin (formerly Driver) of North Shoebury, his relict. The old workhouse formerly stood on this holding, as appears by the parish books, where it is recorded that at a meeting held in 1728, it was unanimously agreed to erect and fix up a workhouse for the better relief of the poor jointly with other parishes, and this was allowed by two of the justices. This document bears the signature of Thomas Holt.

"Purdays," near Sutton-ford, belongs to Camper Wright, son of the Rev. Camper Wright. The latter was brother of Wright, formerly tenant of Rochford-hall.

The "Three Ashes public-house and farm," (together with property at Low Leyton), were formerly the property of a Miss Lydia Moyer, who married John Heathcote,§ F.R.S., of Connington Castle, in Huntingdonshire, second son of Sir John Heathcote, of Normanton-park, Rutland, Bart. Their only daughter, Lydia, afterwards possessed it, who married June 6th, 1811, to Rev. William Henry Dawnay, Viscount Downe, in the peerage of Ireland. Their

* "1711. Francis Asplin, Sen., was buried." See Rochford registers.

† The vault of Charles Asplin is in Little Wakering church-yard, where rest the remains of his mother, his sister Mrs. Brawn, and his only son Charles, who died from injuries received from a fall from his horse, upon the 27th July, 1858, aged 39 years; the accident occurred opposite the Red Lion public-house, Great Wakering.

§ There is a monument to his memory in Chingford chancel, and another to Catherine, second daughter of Benjamin Moyer.

only daughter, Lydia Frances Catherine (born in 1813) the present owner, inherited it from her mother. Her seat is at Benningborough-hall, York. In 1702 the "Three Ashes" was tenanted by Mr. Hust, who was one of the overseers.

"Blatches" was formerly the property of Thomas Fulford, of Whitbreads, in Hockley. He is interred in a vault (constructed by the direction of Samuel Fulford in 1800) at Eastwood church-yard, together with his wife, and various members of the family. He died November 25th, 1827, aged 49 years; and his wife Elizabeth died October 5th, 1831, aged 42 years. He was son of Samuel Fulford,* who died in 1810, aged 77, and Martha his wife, who died in 1821, aged 84 years. Upon Thomas Fulford's eldest son, Thomas,† attaining the age of 21 years, in 1833, the estates were sold. This portion was purchased by John Cliff, of South Ockendon-hall. At his death the farm was bought by Thomas Rickett, the tenant, who was resident. This gentleman, towards the close of his life, embraced the tenets of the "New Lights," and died a firm believer in that doctrine. He bequeathed Blatches to his widow for life; and after her decease, to all his children, with the exception of the eldest, who was otherwise provided for. Upon his widow's death, the second son, John, acquired the estate by purchase, the sum being £3500. The remains of Mr. Rickett and his wife rest in Eastwood church-yard, with the following inscription on his tombstone:—

"The last resting place till the Trump shall sound of THOMAS RICKETT, who died January 1st, 1856, aged 61 years. 'And there shall be no more death for the former things are passed away.' Also ANN, wife of the above, who died July 8th, 1867, aged 72 years."

* His daughter Tonizon, wife of Charles Milburn, of Prittlewell, is interred here. She died in 1800, aged 27.

† He emigrated to America, where he remained some years, but subsequently settled in Australia. The name is spelt incorrectly on the monument, "Fullford" instead of Fulford. The family had adopted this alteration to please an old aunt; but, as it caused considerable trouble at the sale of the estates, by mutual consent, they reverted to the original orthography.

"Flemings" and "New England," the latter in the parish of Rochford, were likewise Fulford's. They were sold at the same time as Blatches, to John Cliff. He devised them by will to Thomas Ricket, sen., for life, and then to his eldest son, Thomas Rickett, of Shopland-hall, the present owner. The latter is married to Mary, only daughter of the late John* and Jane Simmons, of the same place. A bridle way exists, leading from this farm to the Rayleigh road, through Fishers, and is claimed as a right.

"Priory-land" (formerly wood) was for many years in the Bristow family, and has recently been purchased by Stephen Harvey, of Leigh park.

"Biggles Bush," commonly called Beggars-bush, was formerly the property of the late Joseph Smith, who was buried at Hadleigh. He built the present house and premises. His successor was Sir John Jacob Hansler, knight, and his executors sold the estate in 1868.

"Little Birches Wood" (consisting of 30 acres), formerly the property of the Bristows, was sold to Sir J. J. Hansler in 1866, and has again recently changed hands. This wood was omitted being tithed at the commutation, and excluded from the parish map, but upon a revised rating of the parish, about fifteen years ago, was subjected to its proper share in the distribution of the rentals.

"Shoebury Wood," formerly Bristow's, has recently been purchased by Thomas Woollings, of North Ockendon.

"Jay Birds," belongs to Henry Mew.

"Piggotts or Picketts," part of which is in Leigh, was owned at one period by James Ford. His son James sold it to Burnett, whose son John sold it to Samuel Baker, of Hawkwell-hall (*circa* 1850). Samuel Baker married Jane, daughter of the first-named

* John Simmons died in 1844, and his wife Jane in 1860. Their sepulchres are at Shopland.

Thomas Ford, and, dying in 1868, has left the estate to his only son John Baker, of Hockley. These premises, with the exception of the house, were totally consumed by fire during Merritt's occupation.

"Bell-house" and "Brook-field" belonged to the late Sir Richard Digby Neave, Bart., of Dagnam-park, and No. 78, Eccleston-square. He was author of "Four days in Connemara." His successor is Sir Arundell Neave, Bart., who was born in 1828, and was lately a captain in the 3rd Dragoon Guards.* Old folks can remember the road to Leigh by Bell-house being impassable. It was reconstructed with timber laid across. Bell-house was formerly surrounded with woods, and the bell was tolled at intervals to guide those who had lost their way. Old people relate stories of the drinking habits of farmers and others, who used to frequent the Marlborough-head Inn, Rochford, and a hen being set, they did not leave until the incubation was completed.

"White-house" formerly belonged to William Meakens, of Habathalls, in Little Wakering. It was then in his son James Meakens, and now in the descendants of his sister, the wife of Thomas Brewitt, of Down-hall, in Rayleigh.

The "Nursery," near the town of Rochford, belongs to John and William Crick, solicitors, of Maldon, sons of James Crick, formerly nurseryman at this place.

The "Pest-house," commonly known as the "Paste-house," belongs to Louisa Campbell, of Clifton, previous to which it was in Charles Campbell, of Bury-street, Edmonton. This place derived its name from being used as a receptacle for persons afflicted with small-pox, at the period when that disease was so much dreaded, before the introduction of vaccination. There were several houses of this description in the hundred, which were used jointly by several parishes for sanitary purposes. There is a small farm ad-

* See Prittlewell.

joining the Pest-house, containing twenty-nine acres and twelve poles, belonging to North Shoebury* vicarage. Upon this farm a very interesting brass seal was found in 1867. It is in the possession of the Rev. W. E. Heygate. It represents an Italian ecclesiastic, Provost of the church of Frankfort and Canon of Mayence, kneeling between the blessed virgin who supports the holy child, and St. Bartholomew bearing the emblem of his martyrdom, a flesher's knife. The Essex Archæological Society have published a full account of this relic.

"Cock-at-Hurst," likewise called "Cocksey-hart," "Cocksey-hurst," and in earlier records "Coxathart," belongs to the Wren family, who are descended maternally from the Vassals, who were owners of this estate for a long period. John Vassal (the common ancestor of all the Vassals of England) was the friend and neighbour of Samuel Purchas, vicar of Eastwood, and was occasionally resident here and probably owner. The deeds of the farm cannot be traced farther back than 1752, when Asser Vassal was admitted to it, on the death of his mother, whose husband Asser Vassal was rated for it in 1720, as may be seen by the parish books. *John Vassal*, above alluded to, was an alderman and merchant of London, and is mentioned in the third edition of "*Purchas's Pilgrimage*," page 705, book 6, chap. 2, published in 1617, as being "of Eastwood in Essex, and that he told him he brought out of Barbarie a lyon's skinne, which from the snoute to the toppe of the taile, contained one and twenty feet in length." In 1588 he equipped and commanded two ships of war, called the "*Samuel*" and the "*Little Toby*," against the Spanish Armada. He was twice married, and had several sons and daughters by both wives. The eldest son by his first wife was Samuel,† who was member for the city of

* See North Shoebury.

† BURKE's assertion, that he was Lord Mayor, is incorrect.

London in 1640 and 1641. He resisted the impost of tonnage and poundage, was imprisoned, and subsequently had upwards of £10,000 assigned him for his sufferings. He signed the protestation to support the Church of England, and the liberty of Parliament, and finally took the covenant. He emigrated to Boston in America, where he died. An elegant monument (constructed in England) is in the chapel at that place, and bears the following inscription* :—

“Sacred to the memory of SAMUEL VASSAL, Esq., of London, merchant, one of the original proprietors of the lands of this country, a steady and undaunted assertor of the liberties of England in 1628. He was the first who boldly refused to submit to the tax of tonnage and poundage, an unconstitutional claim of the Crown, arbitrarily imposed. For which (to the ruin of his family) his goods were seized and his person imprisoned, by the Star Chamber Court. He was chosen to represent the City of London in two successive Parliaments, which met in April 13 and November 3, 1640. The Parliament in July 1641 voted him £10,445 12s. 3d., for his damages, and resolved that he should be further considered for his personal sufferings, but the rage of the times and the neglect of proper application since, have left to his family only the honour of that vote and resolution. He was one of the subscribers to raise money against the rebels in Ireland. All these facts may be seen in the Journals of the House of Commons. He was son of the gallant John Vassal, who in 1588, at his own expense, fitted out and commanded two ships of war, with which he joined the Royal Navy to oppose the Spanish Armada. This monument was erected by his great Grandson, May 1766.”

This branch is now represented by the descendants of Elizabeth, heiress of Richard Vassal, of Jamaica. She married in the first instance in 1786, to Sir Godfrey Webster; and her marriage being dissolved by Act of Parliament, she espoused, in 1797, Henry Richard, Lord Holland; her sons by each husband taking the surname of Vassal. One of this family, a

* Their Crest was a ship without sails, alluding no doubt to their maritime and mercantile pursuits. Samuel Vassal recorded his pedigree in 1633, when his arms were respited, for want of proof, until he could send into France (whence his family came) for evidence of his title to bear any. He never established his right, and armorial bearings were never allowed or confirmed to any of the elder Vassals. The family were probably Huguenots. In France the name was spelt “Vousal.”

Colonel Vassal, was killed at the siege of Monte Video, and an ex-post facto grant of arms was especially made to him, and his heirs, in recognition of his military services.

Alderman Vassal's eldest son by his second wife,* was *Stephen Vassal*, rector of Rayleigh, who died in 1643. He left a son Stephen,† who married Ann, daughter of Henry Berriman,§ of Rochford and Eastwood, and died (according to the Wren genealogical tree) in 1695. Susannah Vassal, who married George Asser, of Southchurch, was either his sister or daughter. From Stephen Vassal, and Ann his wife, descended *Asser Vassal*, of Barling (who married Mary Spencer of Burnham), and Mary Vassal.‡ From this Asser Vassal descended *Asser Vassal*, of Eastwood, and George Vassal. This last died without issue, and is buried at Barling. They had three sisters, one of whom married a Trotter, another a Robjent, and a third, Elizabeth, married a Netherwood, at Barling church, September 28th, 1732. Asser Vassal married, September 17th, 1723, Judith, daughter of John Shakspeare,¶ of Rawreth, and Elizabeth his wife.

* There is an old steel seal in the possession of the Rev. Thomas Wren, M.A., vicar of Heybridge, which has been conclusively proved to be engraved with the arms of the father of John Vassal's second wife, whose name was Burroughs, of a Kentish family. The blasonry is a bend wavy between two fleurs de lis. Crest, a pair of wings endorsed.

There is a slab on the floor of Eastwood church with this inscription,—
“Hic jacet Thomas Burrough, nuper hujus Parochiæ de Estwood, yoman,
qui ob. 25 Apr. 1600.

† In the Rochford Registers we find—“1678, Feb. 12. Mary, the wife of Stephen Vassal, of Rochford, draper, was buried in the chancel of Rochford aforesaid, e affidavit was brought &.”

§ In the Rochford Registers are—“1635. Mary, daughter of Henry Berriman and Martha, his wife, baptized.” And, in the same year, “Judith daughter of John Berriman, and Mary, his wife, was baptized.”

‡ A Mary Vassal, of Eastwood, was buried at Barling, October 22, 1751.

¶ John Shakspear, of Rawreth, yeoman, whose will is dated 1723, was the son of William Shakspear, and grandson of Samuel “Shakspear,” of Hornchurch, yeoman, who died ante 1678. The will of Susan, wife of the latter, was proved in 1678, and his brother Joseph's, of Havering, in 1640. In their genealogy the name is spelt “Shakspear, Shakspeare, Shakespeare, Shakesphere, Shakespear, and Shakespare.” William Wren, the eldest son of the late Mr. Wren, has in his possession a large and handsome punch bowl, formerly belonging to the Shakspears, with their initials thereon. This was called by the late Mr. Wren the Shakspear font.

He died in 1762, aged 64, and Judith his wife in 1768, aged 67 years. A stone on the floor of Eastwood chancel records that they were buried there. Their issue was *Asser Vassal* of Eastwood, George Vassal of Barling (who married Mary Cause, Dec. 5th, 1760, at that place), and Judith Vassal, who married Robert Hust* of Southchurch Wick, afterwards of Sutton-hall. Asser Vassal, above named, married Mary, daughter of Thomas Mead, and died in February, 1808. His widow survived until December, 1826, aged 86 years. Two stones in the chancel record these events.

* They left a daughter, Judith, who married to Paul Newman of Melksham, Wiltshire, who had issue Marianne Newman, who died aged 7 months, and Paul Hust Newman.

Robert Hust was buried in Sutton church, in woollen, February 7, 1788, in a vault he constructed near the font in 1772.

The act for interment in woollen was passed for the encouragement of the woollen manufacture at a certain period of depression; for burying in any other fabric, it imposed a penalty of £5, half of which went to the poor, and the other moiety to the Crown. It was not lawful to use the least needleful of thread or silk. To make the dress for the dead was a particular trade, and there were many that sold nothing else. This dress was usually half a foot longer than the body, that the feet might be wrapped in it. The body was visited to see that it was buried in flannel, and an affidavit made to that effect. People occupying a good social position in life, frequently paid the fine, and buried their dead in linen.

NOTE.—There is a return preserved in the office of the Registrar General to the following effect, "House of Henry Vassal of Rochford registered in the Bishops Court as a Presbyterian place of meeting by Thomas Scalbott, preacher, 1 June 1699.

In the record office a document is indexed, "*Miscellanea Exchequer's Queens Remembrancer*, part James I. ²⁸/₁₂." It is lengthy and consists of copies of papers relating to a suit between S. Vassal and a Captain Jackett. It appears that Vassal was one of several who fitted out three ships—the *May Flower*, the *Peter* and the *Benjamin*—for Guinea and the West Indies, and Jackett was in charge of the three. From Guinea they shipped between 250 and 400 negroes for the West Indies. Jackett had been ordered to take a certain arm, which he neglected to do, and the consequence was that the ships and their cargo fell into the hands of the Spaniards, at St. Domingo. The suit seems to have been instituted to recover damages.

From the account of "Payments and orders of the standing committee of Essex, Anno 1649," which is among the Harleian MSS., and is catalogued No. 6244, it states that Henry Berriman, of Rochford, was implicated in the Royalist rising of 1648, for which offence his property was sequestered, but the sequestration was immediately discharged.

Those who remember Vassal speak of him with great respect. His usual farming cob had its ears cropped, which was the fashion of that period. He is frequently mentioned in the writings of Arthur Young, who tells us that he was one who disliked "new-fangled whims." There was however somewhat in Vassal's management of his land, that had a charm with that eminent writer. Young, whose object was to introduce practices which he considered would increase the produce of the land, refers to Vassal's farming, "who," he tells us, "keeps only the old Leicester and Lincoln sheep for breeding purposes." In company with Wright, of Rochford-hall, he inspected his crops, and describes the rotation to be—

1. fallow for cole* or turnips; 2. oats or barley; 3. clover; 4. wheat; 5. oats, or barley; 6. clover; 7. wheat.

He was surprised to find the last crop of wheat was laid, and the land so clean. He seems to infer in this instance the soil would stand this rotation from the tithes of the parish being brought on to this farm for consumption, making it so fertile, that the last crop smothered the weeds. It appears to have been a common custom at this period to fold the cole seed and clover† with hogs, generally of the Berkshire breed, whereby handsome profits are said to have been realized. Asser Vassal left an only daughter, Mary, who married William Weld Wren,§ of Southchurch.

* Vassal used to hoe his cole out like turnips, to attain size of stalk and to stub the roots after feeding. Peas and beans were excluded from his system, and the cultivation of roots, such as potatoes and mangel, was not practiced at that period.

† About the year 1730, red clover and Swede turnips were first grown in England, upon a farm called Broadways, near Berkhamstead in Hertfordshire, in the occupation of Thomas Fenn. The same farm is famous for having been the residence of Peter the Wild Boy.

§ There are three altar tombs of the Wren family at Rochford. One records the death of Richard Wren, father of the above, a surgeon at Prittlewell, who died in 1810, aged 63 years, and who married a daughter of Daniel Weld. There are likewise three stones of the Welds: Josias, who died March 27th, 1758, aged 43; Daniel Weld, who died in 1775, aged 61; and William Weld, a surgeon of Romford, who died in 1837, aged 82 years. Daniel Weld, a post captain in the Royal Navy, was the last of that race, buried here about eight years ago.

There is a white marble tablet to the memory of the latter upon the north wall of Eastwood chancel, stating that he died 28th July, 1849, aged 73 years; also Mary, his wife, who died January 3rd, 1830, aged 51 years, and two sons, Asser Vassal and Richard. The three first-named were buried at Rochford, and the last in Eastwood chancel. Mr. Wren vacated Eastwood-bury (which had been the residence of the Vassals for a lengthened period), and some years before his death retired to "Cocket Hurst," where he made extensive alterations to the residence. One of his maternal ancestors was Daniel Weld, rector of Rochford, who died in 1670.

"Great and Little Stambridge woods," formerly Bristow's, were sold at the recent sale to John Baker of Hockley.

"Priory wood," belonging to the same person, was sold to Samuel Baker of Hawkwell-hall, who bequeathed it to his son, John Baker of Hockley. The origin of the names of these and other woods, we have not been able to discover; possibly some of the surrounding parishes had some kind of right therein, and the register book at Prittlewell refers to a law suit in 1697, between John Short, vicar of that parish, and the lay impropriator of Eastwood, respecting one of them, called Coleman's wood.

There is a farm in this parish, situate in Wallasea Island, which was formerly called Cokers-marsh, from Ralph Coker of Woodham Mortimer, the owner. At one time it was the property of Prittlewell-priory; and after the dissolution, was granted to Bishop Bonner, who gave it in marriage with his daughter, to — Perkins, Esq. It is now known as "All Fleets" farm, and is the property of Thomas Harcourt Powell, of Dunstead Park, Suffolk, son of John Harcourt Powell, of Old Burlington-street, Westminster.

In the Eastwood registers is this entry: "1806, Eliza Wren, from Sea Church, buried in the chancel."

The population of Eastwood in 1835 was 531, and in 1861 consisted of 573 persons; eleven of whom resided in Wallasea Island. The gross estimated rental of the parish in 1862 was £6042. The acreage consists of 3140 acres 2 roods and 35 poles of land. There are great diversities of soil: that part including Cocksey-hurst, Jayebirds, Barrow-hall, Eastwood-bury, the greater part of the Rochford-hall land, the Three Ashes, and other farms bordering on Sutton, are very fertile; a more mixed soil exists on Colemans, and the land from this point gradually gets poorer, until you approach Thundersley towards Beggars-bush,* where there exists a burning top soil, with land springs. Across the centre of the parish, from White-house and Bell-house towards Nobles-green and Blatches,† some tolerable mixed land is to be found, but the western part of the parish, next Rayleigh, is poor and adhesive. There are about 18 miles of public road, besides a cart way through Eastwood-bury and Colemans, from Rochford to Prittlewell, and another branch through Eastwood-bury to Nobles-green. There is likewise a long green lane (not yet under the supervision of the Highway Board) connecting Thundersley hamlet with Leigh, by Biggles-bush through Eastwood. A private road leading into this lane through Eastwood-lodge has been recently grubbed, and thrown into that property.

The churchwardens' accounts commence in 1632, and are signed by Tho. Purchas, vic., and likewise with the marks of Josiah Carr and Simon Damson, churchwardens. Unfortunately these accounts simply consist of sums total received, and payments in the gross, without giving details; but there are some

* The predecessor of Joseph Smith was Major George Davis Carr.

† John Cliff, of South Ockendon Hall, previously alluded to as owner of Blatches, died on the 21st of December, 1833, aged 82, and was buried in the ground of the Independent Chapel at South Ockendon. He purchased the advowson of the rectory of that parish, and presented the living to the Rev. Henry Eve, who was son of his half-brother. Cliff drew the tithes in kind for years.

interesting signatures, amongst others of Edward "Makings," who was overseer in 1656. He signs himself "makin." Henry Bury was present at this meeting, and his signature appears in 1680, and he was surveyor in 1683. In 1679 Isaac Higham, surveyor. Stephen Vassal was overseer from 1689 to 1691; and after his decease, his wife Ann had the same office in 1699. In 1703 eighteen shillings were gathered upon the account of the brief of the inhabitants of the Principality of Orange. In 1711 Francis Woodfield, overseer. In 1721 Asser Vassall was churchwarden, and William Deighton, overseer. In 1722 we find James "Naping" surveyor, and in 1723 Thomas "Pirkes," constable. In 1754 paid for the stocks £2 5s. In 1757 paid for six badgers 6s., and two foxes 2s.

The registers commence in 1684, the first year of the reign of King James II. Francis Barbat "tunc temporis" vicar. The following entries occur:—

"1685. Mary daughter of Henry Bury and Mary his wife, buried."
 "George Asser, gent., and Elizabeth Higham were married Jan. 22, 1694."
 The name of Catling occurs in 1697. "Claudius Isnard of Southminster, and Mrs. Hannah North of North Shobury, were married May 29th, 1718, by license." "Jan. 4th, 1748-9. Asser Netherwood, son of Edmund Netherwood, and Elizabeth his wife was baptized." "1750 Sept. 18. Robert Hust of Barling, and Eleanor Brown of South Church, were married."

In 1762 there is a note to the effect that the leaves are cut out in many places, which unfortunately is too true. In 1764 the Pest-house is mentioned.

The rectorial tithes were commuted in 1842 at £950 12s. 10d., and the vicarial at £233 14s. 4d. per annum. There are 20 acres 3 roods and 2 poles of rectorial glebe land, which has lately been purchased by J. W. Stallibrass from the Bristow family, and there are 16 acres 1 rood and 26 poles of vicarial glebe, including the site of the residence (now being enlarged), appertaining to the incumbent. This benefice belonged at one period to the Priory of

Prittlewell, and is supposed to have been given them by their founder, Robert, son of Suene. At any rate they were in possession in the reign of Henry II, (during the Archbishoprick of Beckett), when this church was called a chapel to Prittlewell. However it soon became a rectory, to which the Prior and Monks of that place presented. About the year 1390 they procured the sanction of the Pope for its appropriation to their house; but it being done without the king's consent, or the knowledge of the bishop of the diocese, they were obliged to obtain a licence from King Richard II, in 1394, to appropriate the churches of Estwood and North Shoebury to their own use; and by way of composition with the Bishop of London, to agree 2nd December, 1398, to pay him and his successors 6s. 8d. yearly. The Priory remained possessed of the advowson of this vicarage till its suppression, when it came to the Crown, and hath continued in it to this day. The great tithes belonged to Sir John Spencer, alderman of London, who died 3rd March, 1690. They have since been in the Bristow family; the last of whom, Robert, sold them in 1867 to his mother, Sophia Durie of Broxmore-park, Romsey, Hampshire, second daughter of Joseph Twyne of Ramsbury, Wiltshire. "The abbey of St. German de Flay, in the isle of France, had a portion of tithe corn out of the assarts of the whole fee of Margaret, Countess of Kent, in this parish. That abbey gave this portion in 1246 to the Bishop of London, to dispose of as he pleased, and the Bishop and Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's let them, in 1248, to the rector of this parish, and his successors, in perpetual farm for 24s. a year, which was reduced to 20s. in the reign of Edward I. This sum is still paid from the lands anciently belonging to the Countess of Kent in Wallasea Island, lying within this parish. Mr. Perkins, whilst he had that estate, and the owners of it since, have been yearly

served with a summons out of the Exchequer, to pay this 20s."

The names of many of the vicars of this church are recorded in Newcourt, including Richard Parkins, who was instituted 20th March, 1552, *per mort.* William Anton, on the presentation of Edward VI, and was deprived by Mary, before 27th November, 1554. The biography of these men has been lost, until we come to Samuel Purchas, the celebrated author of the "Pilgrimage,"* who was instituted to this vicarage 24th August, 1604, at the age of 27, upon the resignation of Henry Sledd. He was the son of George and Ann Purchas, and was born at Thaxted and baptized there in 1577. He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and took the degree of M.A. in, 1600 and afterwards that of B.D. He resigned this vicarage at the close of the year 1614, and was inducted rector of St. Martin's, Ludgate, and was succeeded at Eastwood by his brother Thomas, who was just old enough to receive priest's orders. There is very little doubt he resided at Eastwood, where he wrote several of the books of the Pilgrimage, and completed the work in London, a preferment which he tells us afforded him "opportunities of bookes of conference, and manifold intelligence, and was the best seated in the world for his content." He compiled much of his work from information from mariners and merchants, some of whom resided at Leigh, and he mentions the letters of Robert Salmon, master of the Trinity-house, and likewise those of William Goodlad, chief commander of the Greenland fleet twenty years, buried at Leigh. He mentions the journal of Robert Bonner, master of the Dragon. The Bonners were a maritime

* This work commands high prices. In recent times it has fetched from £28 to £65 10s. per copy. The Rev. T. J. Henderson of South Bemfleet, has the 3rd edition of Vol. I., which formerly belonged to the famous Mrs. Thrale, of whom we read so much in the literature of the last century, in connection with Dr. Johnson and Boswell, and was bought at her sale in Streatham-park, in 1819.

family at Leigh, who flourished as such for several generations; and he obtained from the lips of Andrew Battell of Leigh, who was "sent by the Portugals prisoner to Angola, and lived there and in the adjoining regions, neer 19 yeares," important matter for his work. He tells us he was indebted to 2000 authors, so that his labor and research must have been great. It is very evident from a perusal of this work, that like many of the clergy of that period, he was a believer in witchcraft and sorcery. The reader in dissecting a work of this description, depending to a certain extent upon the narratives of sailors and others, must reject the dross and retain the gold. The first volume was published in 1613, the year before he quitted Eastwood, and went through three subsequent editions. The four remaining volumes were issued in 1625. The work is there styled "Purchas, his Pilgrimage, or Relations of the World, and the Religions observed in all Ages and Places, discovered from the Creation to this present." He died in 1626 at the age of 49, and according to a note, page 100, in the "Bolton Abbey Curiosities of Literature," he was buried at St. Martin's, September 30th, 1626. This was one of the churches consumed in the great fire, so that even if his bones escaped that conflagration, his monument (if any) was destroyed. He left a son Samuel, afterwards rector of Sutton, also an author, and a daughter Martha. His other works were "Microcosmos, or the History of Man at all Ages and in all Stations," founded on Psalm xxxix, and the "King's Tower, or Triumphal Arch of London," in a sermon from 2nd Samuel, chap. xxii and verse 51. In one of the editions of Boissard's portraits, there is a fine eulogy upon Purchas, by Loucerus, for which the reader is referred to a memoir of him, lately published by Mr. H. W. King, in the "Transactions of the Essex Archæological Society," together with the transcript of his will. In

this will dated 31st of May, 1625, and proved 21st October, 1626, written by himself, he makes his wife Jane sole executrix, and bequeaths five pounds to the poor people of Thaxted, and to his son Samuel, a messuage and tenement in Thaxted, with the lands and a mill, containing about ten acres, to him and his heirs for ever; and to his daughter Martha, ten acres near the former, besides four crofts, in the tenure of his brother William.* These gifts were subject to certain contingencies during the life of his wife Jane. and in the event of her second marriage. His daughter Martha likewise inherited "pieces of household and naperie, his best bowle of silver guilt wth the cover, one double salt of silver guilte, and sixe gilded spoones of silver." He gave likewise his "seale ringe to his sonne Samuell, and his ring with the deathe's head to his brother William." He left his library books (except those of which he had been the author), globes, mapps, and charts to his son Samuel. Besides his brother Thomas of Eastwood, he had two others named William and George,† who are mentioned in the will, and whose children have certain contingencies; and he mentions his brother-in-law, William Perkins.

He was succeeded in the living of Eastwood by his younger brother Thomas, (who was thirteen years his junior), in 1614. He managed to retain his living through all the troubles of the Commonwealth, and died 20th December, 1657. Although his ability was admitted, he did not altogether give satisfaction to the dominant religious party in 1650, as a charge of tippling was brought against him; and in the Account book of the Archdeaconry there is this entry, under date Sept. 16th, 1618, "Thomas Purchas presented for not observing the 7th article in reading the common prayer, and not saying the litanie, or using the surplice;

* There was a William Purchas, an elder of the eighth Classis, called the Dunmowe and Freshwell Classis. See David's Annals of Evangelical Nonconformity in Essex, page 283.

† There was a George Purchas, one of the bailiffs of Maldon in 1627.

and for not observing the xi art., in keeping hospitality upon his benefice, and doing what he ought for the poore." According to "Cardwell's Documentary Annals," these articles were enjoined by Abbot, in his first metropolitan visitation. He is buried in Eastwood church-yard beneath an altar tomb of brick, with a stone slab, but the inscription is partly effaced. It reads,

"Here lyeth ye Body of Thomas Purchas, Vicar of this Church 45*
years, who deceased ye 20 of Decemb. 1657, in ye 67 year of his age.
Repaired by his son Samuel aged 73."

His will is dated 20 Oct., 1657, and was proved 12th May, 1658. He orders his body to be buried as near his wife as it shall please his executors. He left two sons, Thomas and Samuel (the latter sole executor), and two daughters. His nephew, Samuel Purchas, rector of Sutton, was nominated overseer, and had 20s. for a ring. He left his son Thomas 40s. and his "Targuse" ring, which was his brother George's. To his son Samuel, two pictures of his father and his brother Samuel, with the coat of arms. To the poor of Eastwood 40s. After discharging the legacies, the residue between his sons and daughters.

Morant relates that he was succeeded in the living by Richard Rochell, 7th February, 1658, upon the presentation of Richard Britteridge. There is great doubt respecting this, although it is so recorded in the Lambeth MS. 946. no. 22. Eastwood was in the gift of the Crown (then in Cromwell), but Sutton was in the presentation of the said Britteridge, who gave the latter to Rochell, upon the death of Samuel Purchas, our vicar's nephew, which event took place at the end of the year 1658 or in January 1659. The probability appears to be, that the successor of Thomas Purchas was "Philologus Sasheverell," as his signature as vicar appears in the churchwardens' books in 1659, and again in 1662, in which year he

* This must include the two years he served as curate.

resigned the living, on the passing of the Act of Uniformity, which took effect upon St. Bartholomew's day. In the act book of the Archdeaconry, under date 17th September, 1662, there is this entry,—“Eastwood: Mr. Philologus Sacheverell, vicar, vacat. rat. stat.” He was the fifth and youngest child of John Sacheverell (rector of East Stoke, Leicestershire, from 1615 to 1651), and Deborah Dale. An account of him is to be found in Nichol's Leicestershire, and in Calamy. Dr. Henry Sacheverell of “high church” notoriety in later times, was his grand nephew, being a grandson of his brother John, of Brompton.*

Robert Poole succeeded to the living of Eastwood, and his signature appears in the churchwardens' book in 1664. He resigned in 1666, when Robert Smith was appointed, who signed the same book in 1667, and died the latter part of the same year. He had likewise the vicarage of Cricksea. William Knight succeeded him, whose name appears in 1669. Knight resigned in 1673, and the living was next conferred upon Raymond Gaches, who subsequently became vicar of Barling, which he held jointly with Eastwood. Upon his decease, Francis Barbat succeeded him in this parish in 1684. He is the last vicar mentioned by Newcourt, and he calls him “the present vicar” in 1700. This cannot have been the case, as in the registers Petrus Peres† is recorded as vicar in 1697; and there is the entry of the baptism of Martha, daughter of Petrus Peres, and Sarah his wife, upon the 6th February, 1698–9. In subsequent years are these entries,—“Peter Peres, jun., was buried Dec. 4th, 1709. John Peres was buried Dec. 10th, 1709. Thomas Terton and Jane Peres were married 29th day of June, 1714,” and it is recorded upon “Feb. 6th, 1748–9, the Rev. Peter Peres, vicar of this parish upwards of 50 years, was buried.”

* Respecting him and his brother Timothy, see CALAMY p. 597, 746, 269 and 424.

† MORANT calls him Peter Parrys.—In 1695 occurs the last signature of Francis Barbat.

The benefice was not long vacant, for George Morrison succeeded February 17th, 1748-9, who likewise held the rectory of Sutton. He is said to have been such a fine and impressive reader, that Garrick came down to hear him read the burial service. Upon his decease in 1763, Francis Fordyce, A.M., was inducted into the living in November of that year, by "Morice," rector of Sutton. The latter had been presented in the previous May, and was curate of Eastwood in 1762. Fordyce, who was resident, died September 27th, 1766, and was buried at Leigh on the 30th. His successor was John Blake, who was instituted in November of the same year. The curacy was served in 1767 by George Pye, who was likewise curate of Rochford, and rector of Stowell, Somerset, and died in May, 1782. William Bowman was curate in 1783. J. D. Hodge in 1793. William Polhill in 1800; and Daniel Fidler in 1809. Richard Stubbs, D.D., vicar of Eastwood, died in 1810. He was likewise rector of Fryerning, and inscribed on a brass beneath the altar of that church, is the following inscription:—

"RICHARD STUBBS, D.D., Rector of this Parish 29 years, Died 26th December, 1810, aged 64. PLEASANT STUBBS, wife of Richard Stubbs, D.D., died December 1st, 1830."

and a monument near the pulpit records that he was interred beneath the altar; that his wife was 77 when she died, and that an infant son named Robert rests with them. His successor at Eastwood and Fryerning was Richard Michell, D.D., who has a monument in the church-yard at Fryerning, which tells us that it is

"Sacred to the memory of the REV. RICHARD MICHELL, D.D., 11 years Rector of this parish, Died January 1st, 1826, aged 59 years."

Upon his death George Price, M.A., obtained both livings, and was buried May 15th, 1861, aged 80. Price is commemorated by a stained glass window at the east end of Fryerning chancel, with the following inscriptions to himself and niece:—

"Take up thy cross daily and follow me. To the memory of MARY PRICE, who died unmarried May 8th, 1851, aged 68."

"GEORGE PRICE, M.A., inducted Rector 1826. I am the resurrection and the life."

"To the memory of the REV. GEORGE PRICE, M.A., Rector of this Parish, who died May 9th, 1861, aged 80."

These last three vicars, as the reader has been told, were pluralists, and it happenend thus: Lord Eldon was High Steward of Oxford, and Fryerning being in the gift of Wadham* College, and Eastwood in the gift of the Lord Chancellor, Eldon gave Eastwood (as a compliment to the university) to their appointee. Fidler, before named, was succeeded in the curacy of Eastwood by the Rev. Thomas Gregory Warren Walker, B.A., who, as his monument in this churchyard tells us, was curate 24 years, and died in his 71st year. He was buried August 19th, 1834, by W. Woolhouse Robinson, curate of Rochford. Walker was vicar of Rickling. His wife Mary† (to whom he was married about 1820) and who died in 1857, aged 91 years, was widow of James Wyatt of Lambourne-hall, and daughter of Thomas Harridge of Rayleigh. She had an only daughter by Wyatt, Mary Hannah, who died July 27th, 1868, aged 80 years, who was the wife of Samuel Clayton, late of Enfield Old Park, Middlesex, and afterwards of Turrett-house, Rayleigh, and for many years churchwarden of that parish. Walker died childless, but he was himself the eldest of seventeen. He resided at one time at Hartlip in Kent, and whilst living at Eastwood (as the vicarage house was unsuitable) at his farm at Nobles-green. His father was a clergyman, who lived at Northallerton in Yorkshire. One of his brothers was a solicitor, and three others—George, Foster, and Philip, entering the army, each obtained the rank of General. The two former died of cholera in India. Another brother,

* Wadham College in Oxford was founded by Nicholas Wadham, of Merryfield, in the county of Somerset. He married Dorothy, the second daughter of Sir William Petre.

† Her sister, Susannah Attridge, lies near.

Charles, was rector of Black Notley, and Benjamin was a captain in the navy. He was succeeded in the curacy by T. T. Cresswell, who resided at the parsonage until 1838, when he was appointed to the vicarage of Steeple, in this county.

Upon his resignation of the curacy, its duties were accepted by Rev. W. C. R. Ray, B.A., who, as the stone to his memory in the church-yard informs us, was "19 years curate," until the death of Price, when he was appointed vicar, and held the living nine years. He was born September 7th, 1796, and died November 7th, 1866. He was buried on the 13th by the Rev. James Harris, rector of Paglesham. Ray was eldest son of the Rev. William Carpenter Ray, vicar of Boreham: he was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, and married for his second wife Elizabeth Mills, twin daughter of the Rev. Thomas Mills, M.A., vicar of Helions Bumpstead, near Haverill in Essex. The Ray's are a Gloucestershire family, and the Mills's were originally from the neighbourhood of Hitchin in Hertfordshire. Upon Ray's decease the vicarage was conferred upon Edward Mount Birch, who exchanged this living (with the Rev. John Spencer, M.A.) for the vicarage of Kirby Moorside, in Yorkshire. The parishioners of Eastwood are indebted to the exertions of Mr. Birch, for their organ, which was purchased partly by subscription, and partly from the proceeds of a lecture, delivered by him at Rochford and Leigh, fancifully entitled "Jack and the Bean Stalk," and which was embellished with reminiscences of events that occurred during his sojourn in India and elsewhere. This organ was formerly in Lavenham church, Suffolk. Birch is son of the vicar of Hertford. Spencer was instituted in February, 1868. He is of a Wiltshire family, and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He is married to Margaret, second daughter of the Rev. Edmund Henry Penny, M.A., rector of Great Stambridge.

The church, dedicated to St. Laurence* and All Saints, is very picturesque in appearance, and the venerable elms in the church-yard add much to the beauty and pleasing seclusion of the site. The tower is situated at the south-west corner of the edifice, which is rather a rare example in this county. A notice respecting this church is to be found in Archdeacon Hale's "Precedents in causes of office against Churchwardens and others," published in 1841, being "Extracts from the Act books of the consistory Court of London." According to this, in 1612, the church was in a dilapidated state, not only as regards the "rooffe, but the seates were neither floored, nor well benched, and there was neither pott† or pewter, nor any other mettall to put wine in, for the communion table, etc." Want of money being pleaded as an excuse for not doing the repairs, a commission was granted to survey "y^e decayes," and the making of a rate to the churchwardens, and to Mr. Vassall, Richard Thorneton, Francis Gates, John Hawkin, Richard Ellis, and other parishioners; and they had orders to transmit their proceedings and rate, together with the commission, into the court. George Buckler, in 1853, inserted an article in the *Chelmsford Chronicle* upon this church, and gave a very luminous and well written

* ST. LAURENCE, Deacon at Rome, of Spanish birth, suffered martyrdom by being broiled on a gridiron under a slow fire. This occurred during the persecution of the Christians under the Emperor Valerian. He had been entrusted with the treasury and riches of the church for distribution amongst the poor, which he proceeded to carry out. The Prefect Macrinus hearing of this, ordered him to deliver those treasures into his hands. Upon this Laurence requested a respite of three days, which he spent in collecting numbers of poor and decrepid persons, widows and orphans, and presenting them to the Prefect, told him, those were the church's treasures and jewels, and they had none others. Finding himself thus mocked, the savage Pagan sentenced him to the above lingering death, which he endured most patiently, requesting to be turned when one side was broiled enough, and finally gave up the ghost, praying for the conversion of the city of Rome. His ashes were buried in the Veran field, near the road to Tibur, on the 10th of August, in 258. A church was afterwards built over his tomb, in the reign of Constantine the Great.

† The pott here mentioned was a vessel used for the wine before consecration, and is now represented by our black bottle.

account of it. He says, the structure is probably "late Norman," and the font (which is circular and stands upon a step) is of the same character. The internal arches, north, are "transition Norman," those on the south, with the chancel, "early English," but the whole edifice underwent extensive alterations in the 14th and 15th centuries. The east window of the chancel, consisting of three compartments, has *ogee* trace of the 14th century, with remains of floriated corbels, of earlier date. On the north is an original Henry III window. On the south side is a window with a sill used as sedile, with a piscina plastered over. Near it is a "low side window*" of lancet date, under a wide arch, the jamb of which is constructed with an original hagnoscope, which affords a view of the altar from the south aisle; a portion of an abacus moulding remains." In this aisle is another piscina, which appears to have escaped Buckler's notice, as it is hidden from view by the boarding of the Cocksey-hurst pew. The north aisle is perhaps the oldest part of the fabric; the western portion is enclosed with wood-work of highly interesting character,

* Low side windows were formerly unglazed and had shutters. Mr King, in some remarks in Vol. iv p. 159 of the "Transaction of the Essex Archæological Society," in reference to the use of low side windows, states—there are at least twelve explanatory theories of the use of these windows, against every one of which there have been fatal difficulties and objections. The theory that they were used to communicate lepers is untenable as some of these windows are ten feet from the ground, and others so low that a communicant would be obliged to lie prostrate in the church-yard. The various theories are fully discussed in the 4th volume of the "Transactions of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland (p. 314, et seq.)" In the 5th volume of the same journal, p. 70, Mr. John J. Cole appears to give the most probable solution of the difficulty. He says "Prior to the introduction of the Sanctus Bell-cots, and commonly when these were not erected, then at the low side window, the Sacristan stood, and on the elevation of the Host, opened the shutter, and rang the sanctus bell," so that every one whosoever they were, whether in the fields or in their houses, should bend their knees. This was in accordance with the Constitutions of John Peckham, A.D. 1281. When the window was high, the sacristan might ascend by steps. The position of these windows, facing either south or north, or both, is an indication of the position of the village at the period of their construction.

John of Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury, born of a peasant's family, was brought up in the poor school of the Clunian Monks of Lewes.

and dating from the time of Henry VI. The enclosure is in two stories, the lower apartment being probably the sacristy, the upper the muniment room. The floor of this apartment is framed with a well-hole, as the only means of access; the oaken trap door is furnished with a wooden lock of Brobdignagdian proportions. The door-way belonging to this aisle has been blocked up, but the ancient door is preserved in the church, with very splendid ironwork in raised scrolls and engraven surfaces." At the south door-way is to be seen the remains of a holy water stoup. The door remains, and is covered with ironwork* scarcely less ancient than the other. On one of the iron bands is this inscription: "Pax regat intrantes, eadem regat egredientes," which may be rendered thus:—May peace rule those entering, and likewise those going out.

The spire of this church was formerly shingled, but it is now of modern carpentry, and weather-boarded. There were at one period four bells,† now reduced to three. The first has this inscription:—
 ✕ SANCTE ✕ GREGORI ✕ ORA ✕ PRO ✕
 NOBIS. The second:—SANCTA : KATERINA :
 ORA : PRO : NOBIS : and the third, is dated 1693.

Remnants of the ancient benches, and three stall ends, having finials and rounded elbows, with rosettes, still exist, thus affording an idea for future restoration.‡ Many of the ancient tiles of the floor are vitrified, and are nine inches square. Elizabeth Hooker's monument in the north aisle, mentioned by Salmon,

* These door tracings are now in the hands of an architect, and this magnificent iron-work will shortly be published in the Journal of the Essex Archæological Society.

† One was sold during the curacy of Cresswell, and the proceeds (about £16) applied to the reparation of the spire. The weather-cock formerly belonged to Deeley of Battle's-bridge.

‡ The present vicar, the Rev. John Spencer, contemplates this good work. He is the second son of the late John Spencer, Esq., of Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

remains: she died October 20th, 1666. The effigy in brass upon the tomb of Thomas Burrough, likewise merits attention. Salmon gives the inscription imperfectly. It is as follows:—

“Hic jacet Thomas Bvrrrough, nuper hvjus Parochiæ de Eastwood, yoman; qui obiit xxvth die Aprilis, Anno Dni. 1600, Ætatis svæ XLIV. et reliquit Mariam vxorem, ex qva svsoepit decem liberos, qvorvm tempore obitvs svi vixerunt sex, viz tres filii, et todidem filiz, scilicet, Thomas, Barnabas, et Johannes; Maria, Brigitta, et Martha.”

On the south wall of the chancel is an oval tablet which records, that “near this wall are deposited the remains of Thomas Hoskins, lieutenant of marines, who ended this life Nov. 1st, 1798, aged 59.” He was a friend of the Vassal family, and resided at Cocksey-hart. There are three stones in the church-yard to the memory of the Dighton family, one of whom, William “Deighton,” was overseer in 1721, and churchwarden in 1724. The centre stone records, that “Thomas Dighton departed this life Feb. 28th, 1718, aged 82 years. His daughter Mary set up this stone.” The other two record that “Hannah Dighton died 25th August, 1733, in the 50th year of her age, and was the wife Joseph Dighton. Elizabeth Dighton died Oct. 8th, 1708, wife of Thomas Dighton, aged 69 years; also Thomas Dighton, her son, and Mary Jay, ‘hur’ grand-daughter.” There are four stones to the Bammon family: one of them to the memory of Joseph Bammon, of Edwards-hall, who died in 1864, aged 75; another to his wife Lydia; a third to James Bammon, of Bell-fares farm, in Leigh, who died in 1858, aged 72 years; and a fourth to Sarah, wife of the latter. There are three stones to the Lucking family (whose names are among the oldest on the register), and others to John Wright, Esq., of Maldon, who died in 1806; to James Constable, to John Ramsey; to Stephen Townsend, and to the Watts, Bacon, Barker, and Boosey families. At the south-east corner of the church-yard is a tomb sur-

rounded by iron railings, to the memory of "Mary, wife of Stephen Allen of the Bury, who died in 1853, aged 48." Her maiden name was Patmore, of Foulness. "Also Stephen Allen, who died in 1850, aged 16." The remains of another family named Allen, of Rochford, are interred near, with stones and inscriptions thereon. There is likewise a stone to the memory of Ann Harridge, relict of the late D. Y. Harridge of Little Stambridge-hall, and daughter of Samuel and Martha Fulford, who died March 1st, 1841, aged 71. The church-yard fence is in the care of the churchwardens, and liable to be repaired by the parish.

There are frequent notices in the parish books respecting Sudbury's charity, of which this parish receives £1 per annum, paid at irregular periods to the churchwarden, from part of the proceeds of an arable field in the parish of Hawkwell. Hockley has £1 per annum, and the remainder of the rent belongs to Hawkwell. The money in this parish has usually been distributed by the officiating minister amongst all the poor and deserving inhabitants resident, not excepting those receiving relief. This provision was made by the will of Robert Sudbury, of Hawkwell, yeoman, dated 16th January, 1615, wherein he directs his executrix to pay £100 to his "good frind Weston Hills of High Ongar, Giles Roule, Thomas Clement, Laurence Sansome, John Clement (son of Thomas Clement), and Thomas Clement the younger, to purchase a parcel of land; the rents to be bestowed and given to fatherless children in Eastwood, Hockley and Hackwell, by even and equal portions." He excepts from the distribution all bastards and idle persons. The name of "Sudburie" is mentioned amongst the baptisms in the Rawreth registers in 1555; and in the marriages we find that Isaac Sudbury and Ann Skilsby, from Little Cornard in Suffolk, were married there in 1642.

NOTE.—Since writing the above, we find that licence was granted 11th June, 1666, to Stephen Vassal of Rochford, woollen draper, to marry Mary, daughter of William Cripps of Great Stambridge, grazier. This Mary, together with her sisters Susan and Elizabeth (the latter being infants), were admitted to their father's property, (being part of Munkenbarns in Foulness) in 1668. Susan subsequently became the wife of Henry Berriman, and died in 1680. Stephen and Mary Vassal had a son Asser Vassal, who, whilst a minor (Stephen Vassal being guardian), was admitted to eight tenements in Foulness, upon the death of his mother in 1678. The above supplies a link in the earlier portion of the Vassal genealogy.

SOUTH FAMBRIDGE.

THE MANOR AND ESTATES—ELOPEMENT OF FRANCES,
DAUGHTER OF SIR ROBERT RICH, KNIGHT, WITH CAPTAIN
CAMMOCKE—SWIMMING OF A SUPPOSED WITCH—PARISH
LAND, &c.—THE OLD & NEW CHURCHES—THE CLERGY, &c.

THE name of this parish is probably derived from a Saxon word *fæm*, signifying foam or froth, and the bridge formerly existing here; but in the Domesday book it is written *Phenbruge*. Although the old historians do not narrate the circumstance, it seems probable there were two bridges—North and South Fambridge—as in all the old maps, such as Speed's, Norden's and others, an island is laid down in the centre of the stream, precisely in the track of the present ferry, so that the old road probably passed through it. In the course of time, after the marshes were enclosed, the velocity of the water being greater, it would soon carry away and undermine an island, whose only resistance to the current consisted of mud banks.

The first record we have of the manor is in Edward the Confessor's reign, and Leland states, that monarch granted it to Ely monastery. It appears the monks favoured the native English, in opposition to William the Norman, as their rights were usurped at the time of the Survey, probably with a view to punishment. At that period Rainaldus Balistarius, a Norman officer of cross-bowmen, was in possession, but the monks subsequently recovered the manor, for we find in the year 1166, Reginald de Fambridge, held under Nigel, Bishop of Ely, after that see was

erected out of the Abbey. A family, surnamed De Brianzon, became possessed of this in the reign of Henry III. William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton, held it at the time of his decease in 1360. In the 19th year of the reign of Richard II, license was granted to Sir John Cobham, knight, and others, to give this manor to the College of Pleshey; and upon its suppression, becoming vested in the Crown, King Henry VIII granted it to Sir John Gates, who was arraigned and condemned in 1553 for supporting the claims of Lady Jane Gray, and it remained with the Crown again until 1560, when Queen Elizabeth granted it and the advowson to Peter Osborne, in whose family it remained for several generations: he resided at Purley in 1442. His second son, Richard, was seated at Tyled-hall in Latchingdon, and had two sons, John, and Peter born in 1521. He was a man of considerable parts, and very zealous for the Reformation. He was keeper of the privy purse to Edward VI, who granted to him and his heirs the office of Treasurer's Remembrancer in the Exchequer. When Queen Elizabeth came to the throne, he was one of the High Commissioners for Ecclesiastical affairs. His son Sir John Osborne, knight, was Commissioner of the navy in the reign of James I. His youngest son Francis wrote some essays or miscellanies, one of which is, "Advice to a Son." The eldest son, Sir John, settled at the Priory of Chick-sands, in Bedfordshire, and died in 1628.* Sir Peter, his eldest son, was 28 years Governor of Guernsey. His eldest son, John, was created a baronet in 1660, and was Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to King Charles II. His great grandson, Sir Danvers Osborne succeeded to the estate in 1720, and afterwards sold

* The Osborns of North Fambridge were of the same family. In the chancel of that church is an epitaph for William Osborn, who had to wife Anne, daughter of Sir William Walker, by whom he had eight sons and eight daughters; ob. Jan. 15, 1500. Anne, his wife, died March 17, 1607, aged 72. Their effigies, and those of the children, are to be seen in brass on the stone.

the property and advowson to John Stephenson, who married a daughter of Jonathan Forward, merchant, of London. They are now the property of his descendant, William Walter Stephenson, who at one time resided at Florence, in Tuscany, but now at Ocle Court, Ocle Pritchard, Hereford. This farm, now known as the Hall, comprises nearly 800 acres, and the corn from some portion (until recently), had to be carried more than two miles to the homestall, but the farm is now divided, and a new house (called New-hall) and farm premises were built in Beckney-lane, about the year 1840. There is only one manor existing in the parish, and no courts have been held for a long period, but one shilling per annum is paid by an occupier of a strip of land in Greenstead-lane.

A messuage here, called "Fersters," and 160 acres of arable and 10 of marsh land, belonged in 1422 to John Baud, and in 1447 to Robert Darcy.

Two messuages and lands, called "Ferry-lands," with the passage, and "Bett's," belonged in 1556 to William Harrys, who held them of the Lord Rich, as of the honor of Rayley, by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, and were then worth £21 6s. 8d. a year. The ferry farm was at one period in the late Colonel Kersteman, and then in Stephen Allen the younger, who transferred his interest therein to the present owner, J. W. Stallibrass. The rights of toll across this ferry are equally shared with a farm on the opposite side of the river, situate in North Fambridge.

At this ferry a bold love adventure formerly occurred. The relation was taken in writing from Mr. Malden of Rayne, a servant of the Earl of Warwick:—"The Earl going from Leighes* to Rochford-hall was attended by Captain Cammock, who courted his daughter. He carried her off upon a horse, and came to Fambridge Ferry, where the boat was on the other side, and the tide violent: they found themselves

* Lees-Priory, in Chelmsford Hundred.

pursued, and had no shift but to swim over; the Captain advised her not to venture, but she said she would live and die with him, and took the water. When they were half over, the Earl's servant came to the water side, and his horse neighed; upon which the horse that carried the lovers turned round, and with much difficulty was brought to keep his course. They rode to Maldon, were wedded, and the Earl said, 'seeing she had ventured her life for him, God blesse 'em.'” This lady, whose name was Frances, was the only daughter of the Earl (then Sir Robert Rich), and second wife of Thomas Cammocke.* He was the son of Robert “Camock,”† who held considerable property in the county, and was grandson of John Camock of Laver Marney. At the time of the elopement, the Captain was living in Sir Robert Rich's family. He died in 1602, and was buried in All Saints church, Maldon, at the east end of the north chapel. There are the effigies sculptured in niches of himself and his two wives kneeling. It is a very fine monument of the Elizabethan period, adorned with escutcheons of arms. These arms are—

“Quarterly, Or and Gu., a cross Ermine, *Cammocke*; impaling 1 and 4 Arg., 3 bugle horns Sa, garnished and stringed Or, *Wyrley*; 2 and 3 Arg., 2 bars Gu., in chief 3 torteaux. *Cammocke* as before impaling, Gu, a chevron between 3 cross crosslets Or, *Rich*. 2 and 3 Sa. on a chevron engrailed Or between 3 demi-griffins segreant Erm; as many martlets Gu., *Baldrey*.”

“Mors mea: mea vita.”

“Here lyeth the body of Thomas Cammocke of Maldon, gent; who had two wyves, Ursula and Frances. He dyed the 29th of March, A.D. 1602. Being of the age of LXII. Ursula, his first wyfe, was one of the daughters of John Wyrley, of Dodforde in the county of Northampton, Esq., by whom he had four sons and five daughters. Frances, his second wyfe, was the

* “Thomas Cammock, of Maldon, gave Cromwell-Water to that town.”

† Some curious extracts from Robert Camock's will are to be found in a paper on Ancient Wills, by H. W. King, in Vol I. of the Transactions of the Essex Archæological Society. One of this family, Captain George Cammock, R.N., was dismissed from the English service in 1714, in consequence of his attachment to the cause of the exiled house of Stuart, and entered that of Spain.

only daughter of the Right Honorable Sir Robert Rich,* knight, Lord Rich. By whom he had two sons and eleven daughters. This monument was erected at the equal charge of Robert his eldest son, and Frances his wife. *Quantum possumus non quantum debemus tibi reddimus.*"

Salmon, speaking of North Fambridge, says that the "power of love has been seen on South Fambridge; a female huntress of this country now alive, has been seen to swim her horse over the ferry in a chase; which proves Diana equal to Venus."

It was at this ferry, about the middle of the last century, that a man and woman in this hundred who were suspected of witchcraft, underwent the water ordeal. Captain Harriott, of Broom-hills, near Rochford, (the originator of the Thames police), alludes to this poor woman in his biography or "Struggles through Life." He tells us she lived in Rochford, at the second cottage† upon entering the town from the Stambridge road, and he remembers in his school days, many were the tales told of her having been seen "by the seamen who sailed in the corn hoys to and from London, floating on the rough waves." He states, she "kept constantly cropping in her garden, with the large white-headed poppy, the juice of which it was said, she carefully preserved, to treat her imps with, every full moon." He gives us some idea respecting the merciless persecution she endured, by relating a trick he played her, to satisfy himself of her guilt or innocence. When he found the poor creature to be as harmless as other mortals, he and his brother ventured to cross her threshold, which act they had previously been taught to believe would have placed themselves in her power. These poor people, named Hart, were swum in the presence of a great concourse of people; the husband was adjudged innocent, after having been nearly drowned, but the wife being tied to a boat by a line, floated

* Sir Robert Rich was created Earl of Warwick in 1618.

† Now belonging to the Gas Company.

like a cork, and is believed to have been a witch by the credulous to this day. This opinion was subsequently strengthened by the statement of a waterman, who, when he heard the bell toll for her, declared he had been under a spell; for having seen her upon one occasion swimming in the river in a bowl, she called out to him, "when you think of it, do you speak of it," and he declared he remained in utter forgetfulness of the circumstance until her death.

"Pulpits or Pokepetts" farm, situate in Greenstead-lane, extends likewise into the parishes of Hawkwell and Ashingdon. There are 27 acres 1 rood and 9 poles in this parish, belonging to the vicarage of Kew, now in the incumbency of the Rev. Percy Wemys Nott. It was bought as an endowment for that living on the 1st of March, 1716, with money given to Dr. Slave, by the then Bishop of Winchester, and by the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. This farm was held by the Rev. Mr. Colton, vicar of Kew, in 1820. He was author of a work called "Lacon, or many things in few words." He disappeared suddenly from Kew, and was not heard of for years, but subsequently was discovered at Paris, his vicarage in the mean time being sequestrated.

The trustees of Woollaston's charity (already mentioned in Ashingdon) have 6 acres 3 roods and 28 poles of land in this parish.

"Brick-house" belongs to J. J. Willan, and it has been in his family for many years.

The parish possesses about one rood of land in Greenstead-lane, let at 11s. per annum; and the sum of £38 is invested in consols, being the proceeds from the sale of a cottage in the same locality. The interest of this amount, and the rent arising from the land, are applied in alleviation of the poor rates.

The population in 1835 consisted of 91, and in 1861 of 104 persons. The rateable value in 1862 was £1382 15s. There are 1232 acres 3 roods and

7 poles of land exclusive of roads, wastes, cottages and churchyard, and with these additions 1239 acres 3 roods and 27 poles. The aspect of the parish is not very inviting, either as regards its soil or scenery; the ground is flat and lies low. The soil is heavy throughout: in Beckney-lane poor, but the best is seen on the road to the ferry, by the Glebe-land and Hall. The marsh lands cannot be extolled.

The tithes were commuted in 1838 for the sum of £315 per annum (including £30 on the glebe). No modus exists. The apportionment was made by Samuel Baker of Hawkwell. There is an excellent glebe, consisting of a house and 124 acres and 30 poles of land.* Like many of the old parsonage houses, it is altogether unsuitable to the requirements of the day, and a new house is now in the course of construction, by the present rector—the Rev. D. M. Salter, the builder being a Mr. Saunders.

The old church, dedicated to All Saints, was demolished in 1846 on account of the insecurity of the foundations, much to the regret of those who admire church architecture; and the present edifice was erected, with the same dedication. The old structure was very small, comprising a nave and chancel of one pace, and it had a little wooden turret, without a bell. There was no monument in it, but Salmon says there was one in the church-yard, erected to Henry Palfrey, yeoman, who died in 1685. At the present day there are many stones to the Potter family. The modern edifice contains a bell of recent date. It was built by Carter of Rochford, at a cost of £250; the rector contributing £100, the parish £100, and the rest was obtained by general subscription.

This rectory from the earliest times has been appendant to the manor, and continues so to our day.

* According to a terrier taken in 1610, there was at that period a Parsonage-house, and another tenement called the Church-house, and about 60½ acres of glebe, besides a field called Twenty acres and a field called Wethersfield, and a little pightle.

Newcourt is in error in supposing that Bartholomew, Lord Baddlesmere was connected with it, in the reign of Edward II, as Morant shews in a note upon this parish. The earliest patron on record was John de Peyton, who presented in 1336. Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, sixth son of Edward III, who was afterwards murdered by the connivance of Richard II, at Calais, presented to this church in 1396. His inheritance came into the Stafford family, afterwards Dukes of Buckingham, one of whom, Edmund, who presented in 1498, lost his head upon Tower-hill in the 13th year of the reign of Henry VIII, being condemned by his peers, to suit the caprices of that monarch. After the Duke's attainder, that king granted the advowson to Sir John Gates. After Sir John's execution, the premises coming to Queen Elizabeth, she granted it to Peter Osborn, who presented in 1586. As Newcourt does not mention the appointments of the clergy during the interregnum, in the 17th century, we must go to other sources for information. John Vicars, who was presented by Henry Osborne in 1640,* had his preferment sequestrated during those troublesome times, for in 1644 it was deposed before the Committee at Maldon that he was non-resident, kept a drunken curate, and was suspected of being a Popish priest. The living was sequestered to the use of one Jackson, (the cousin of Richard Smith, Prothonotary of the Poultry Compter), who died August 29th, 1645. He was succeeded by John Hopkins, who was dismissed for neglecting the cure June 13th, 1646, and Robert Tournay appointed. This result was obtained in consequence of a petition from the parishioners, that Hopkins had not supplied them with a curate. Upon the death of Vicars in 1660, Tournay obtained the rectory, where he was resident. He was likewise vicar of Springfield-Richards, and died in 1661. The Os-

* During this century, according to Archdeacon Hale's Precedents, the Churchwardens of this parish, and those of Shopland, were excommunicated for not exhibiting their presentment.

bornes* continued patrons until they sold the advowson to the Stephensons, in the early part of the 18th century.

The registers do not go further back than the year 1765, but we glean from them, that "in 1782 the Rev. Matthew Kay, LL.D., rector of this parish, and vicar of Holm Cultram,† in the county of Cumberland, was interred here. He resided at that vicarage, and died at Rochford, as he was coming to visit this place, Oct. 21st." In "1794, Sept. 7th, the Rev. Miles Steadman, rector of this parish, was buried in the chancel by J. Wise, minister." The Rev. Edward Fawcett obtained this living in 1809; he was also incumbent of Cockermouth, in Cumberland, and died at that parsonage in 1865, aged 87 years. He was father of the Rev. James Grisdale Fawcett, of Stockton on Forest, Yorkshire, formerly curate of this church, and chaplain of the Rochford union house. Upon the death of Fawcett, the patronage for that time being sold, this living devolved upon the present rector, the Rev. David Mede Salter, who is at present an absentee. Salter's father was at one time curate of Glastonbury, in Devonshire, and whilst resident in that parish obtained possession of a small silver gilt Paten, which had formerly belonged to the great Abbey of Glastonbury. This Paten Mr. Salter has presented to the parish, for use in the administration of the holy communion, and is of interest, as being a specimen of ancient ecclesiastical plate, in use in the church of England, previous to the Reformation.

There is a memorandum in the register-book, "that by act of Parliament, passed in the 23rd year of

* One of whom, Thomas, was vicar from the 15th July, 1726, until Oct. 19th, 1727, when he resigned. (Sir Danvers Osborne, Bart., patron).

† Reference is made to Matthew Kay, and likewise to the Stephensons, in a History (published in 1867) of the Abbey of Holm Cultram, by the Rev. Arthur Ashworth, M.A., vicar of that place. Holm Cultram is an Oxford University living.

George III, a tax of 3d. for every marriage, christening, and burial (except for paupers), was to be collected by the parson, who was to have 2d. in the £ for collecting." In William and Mary's reign, a poll tax of the same nature on baptisms, caused thousands to die unbaptized, as the Sacrament was often rejected for the purpose of evading the imposition; and the Whig registration act, to some extent, renews the evil in our own day.

The fence surrounding the church-yard is solely repaired by the parish.

FOULNESS.

ANTIQUITY—THE MANOR—OWNERS OF THE SOIL—CHURCH—
TITHES — CLERGY — ELLWOOD'S CHARITY — REMARKABLE
EVENTS—MANNERS AND CUSTOMS—DANGERS OF THE SANDS
—CELEBRATED CHARACTERS—AGRICULTURE, &c.

FOULNESS is the easternmost, and largest of a group of six islands upon the coast, and was in existence at the time of the Roman occupation of Britain, as pottery of that people has been found on Little Shelford, consisting of seven pieces,* viz., a large coarse grey vessel, $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches high and $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, two small vessels of the same material four inches high, two small dishes of the fine red ware called Samian, of five inches diameter, the one plain and the other ornamented on the rim, and two other fragments of Samian ware, one of which has a grotesque head. There is likewise a mound on Rugwood and another on Great Burwood, attributed to that nation, but which have not been examined.

This island, under the name of Eadulfness, is mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, with reference to a rebellion, headed by Sweyn the Earl, son of Godwin the Earl. The crews of several vessels having landed there in the year 1049, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and "there did harm." Norden tells us, this name was corrupted into Fulnesse, and in speaking of the island calls it a "fat one." Camden and Skinner interpret it the promontory of birds or fowls. It is likewise written in records Fughelness, and in the

* They are preserved at Eastwood Bury, and were found during the present century, in a mound of red earth, between the house and the wall.

books (now extant in the island) of the date of William and Mary, Fowlness. This island, in common with the neighbouring ones, has at various periods been inundated, and mention is made of such a misfortune happening to it in 1551,* in consequence of a high tide, whereby all marshes were overflowed. It was estimated in the middle of the last century to contain about 4500 acres, but since that period it has increased its bounds considerably, by fresh enclosures, and it now contains 6310 acres and 7 poles. Its circumference is estimated at about 20 miles, with a population, according to a census taken in 1861, of 665 souls, and in 1862 the rateable value was £10028. It was rated in the churchwardens' books in 1754 at £2490.

The island, portions of which now pay tithes to the parishes of Shopland, Sutton, Little Stambridge and Rochford, and formerly to Little Wakering, Prittlewell, and Eastwood, (by which parishes the island was first peopled), was united for the purposes of a poor law, under Elizabeth, but doubts exist as to the liability of road-making. The original part of the island is for the most part the lowest, and the new lands are of the greatest altitude; a regular step of ascending planes can be traced from the former to the latter. The declivity or fall is about two feet from south to north, with a few deviations. It is supposed to have been enclosed little by little in small islands, as the old walls (now gradually being removed) can be traced along side the old rills or fleets, which were at length absorbed. The passage through Wakering (by Landwick) to Foulness was disused for many years, being impassable, and those having business therein, were obliged to take the sands from Pigs Bay in South Shoebury (opposite Suttons), but the importance of

* See Miss Stricklands lives of the Batchelor Kings of England, in which is a copy of a letter written by Edward VI to his friend Barnaby Fitz-Patrick, in which he mentions this circumstance, and likewise the sickness of Lord Rich.

having the old road restored becoming apparent, the repair was undertaken about 25 years ago by subscription, and the onus of keeping up the highway is now borne by Great Wakering. This improvement was the means of shortening the distance across the sands about two miles. The sum of £15, (five of which is contributed by Mr. Finch, and ten by the parish out of the church rate), is annually paid for keeping up and renewing the brooms on the shore, which indicate the road leading to the island. For the purposes of drainage, it is under a Commission of Sewers, first organized in 1800. The course pursued, was, that which is adopted in similar cases, by petition of the landowners to the Lord Chancellor, showing the necessity of supervision and control by commissioners. The Lord Chancellor, on being satisfied that the allegations are correct, grants, and in this particular instance did grant, the required commission. It has since that time been worked by that body, and the commission renewed from time to time as required by law. No renewal is now needed, but when there is a necessity for additional commissioners, a petition must be presented to the Lord Chancellor, shewing that necessity. These Commissioners annually meet at Southend, to discuss matters relating to the walls, sluices and ditches.

The map* which is kept at the Royal Hotel, was made in 1801 by J. Grist, by orders from the Commissioners in 1800, and issued at the instance of the Right Hon. George, Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham, and others, proprietors. The walls are annually walked and examined. Those farms abutting upon

* This map shows the position of the encampment of the Rochford Hundred Volunteers, in 1801, being upon a piece of waste by the side of the road leading to the Lodge farm, near the parish property, at that time a public house.—For an account of these volunteers, who were mounted, their names and other particulars, see Little Wakering. There were two Semaphores in the Island, one at Burwood, and another at Courts End, that were used during the war with the 1st Napoleon, of which the bases still remain.

the walls, have to keep the latter in repair, but the inland farms, in conjunction with them, are assessed to the marsh lot. There are about thirteen gutters on the north, west, and east sides, acting as outlets for the internal water. These gutters have been laid about four feet lower than formerly; two of them are now constructed with brick, and some with iron. Upon the south side are eight gutters (of which three only are now used) next the Maplin sands, intended to let the salt water in, in summer time, as a fence for stock, and to prevent the effluvia from the ditches affecting the health of the inhabitants. The old fashion was to have plenty of water in the ditches, which entered at every spring tide, but the pioneers of improvement, who desire to keep it out, are now contending with the adherents of the old system. The latter supported their arguments at the meeting of the Commissioners, in 1868, by the aid of counsel. The result is still in abeyance. There can be no question, but the introduction of salt water, where the subsoil is sand, such as Great Shelford and other parts, must be injurious, and it cannot be very desirable to have it too near the surface, even in those parts, where the texture of the land is more impervious, and the necessity of keeping it below land ditch outfalls, is absolutely necessary. The headways are five, viz., Shelford, Great Burwood* (now private), Rugwood, Eastwick, now known as Pattissons, and Fishermans. There are three ferries, one between Foulness and Potton Island, another to the Burnham side of the Crouch river, and a third to Wallasea Island. The island gains on the south side, but the encroachments

* The old headway became impassable. There are indications of an old headway which was made by Burchell, on Little Burwood. Upon this farm is a place, inside the old wall (now absorbed by a new enclosure), marked on the Commissioners' map as the Zump. It is usually spelt Sump, and is an East Anglian word used by the poet Gower, and is derived from the Saxon Sumpf. The Dutch have likewise a word, Sompig, signifying boggy. This Sump is a large circular pool, caused by the rush of the water through a sea gutter. For a further explanation of the term, see the "East Anglian," Vol. 4, No. 101, page 48.

of the sea next Wallasea, are difficult to resist, and insets are occasionally obliged to be made, as much as two acres at a time having been abandoned. This loss is occasioned by the rush of the tide between these islands forming a complete sluice, of which Foulness receives the full force. There is only one manor, that of "Foulness Hall,"* the courts are always called at that mansion, but adjourn to the King's Head, the property of Mr. Finch, at Courts End. All wrecks have been claimed by the lord from time immemorial, and amongst waifs and strays in 1638 upon this manor, a colt was declared by the homage to be forfeited. The lords formerly granted special rights of fowling; a fowling ground called the Ridge having been held under the lord for centuries, but which seems to have terminated about the period of the enclosures at the commencement of the present century. They granted likewise a curious property called horse pastures, or horse grasses, formerly to fishermen, but now commuted by the tenants for money-rents; likewise rights of hooking grounds, and fisheries on the coast called "Kiddles." The manor was originally in Suene, and was forfeited by his grandson. The Crown next granted it to Hubert de Burgh, with the honor of Raley, and his son John gave it to Guy de Rochford, from which time it commonly went along with the manor of Rochford. Sir Guy de Rochford died in 1274, and besides these manors held 120 acres of marsh in Foulness, called Nassewyk. It was afterwards in William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton, who died in 1360, and then passed to his son Humfrey, whose daughter Alianor married Thomas of Woodstock; after his tragical death it came to the Crown, and Henry VI. granted it to James, Earl of Ormond; from whom it passed to the families of Bullen, Stafford

* Independent of this manor, those of Great Wakering and Sutton Temple extend into the island.

and Rich,* and to the female heirs of the Earl of Warwick; one of whom, the Lady Essex Rich, the second daughter, brought it to Daniel,† second Earl of Nottingham and seventh Earl of Winchilsea, son of Heneage Finch, Lord High Chancellor of England, and first Earl of Nottingham. This nobleman (who was twice married) displayed great activity in political affairs both before and after the revolution. He was no stranger to the temporising politics of the day, and although loth to argue and vote against his principles and his duty to James, we yet find him appointed one of the Secretaries of State on the day King William and Queen Mary were proclaimed in 1689. He afterwards refused a bribe of £10,000 to obtain the renewal of the charter of the East India Company, in 1695. In the reigns of Anne and George I. he was in office, but at length he gave offence at court, by pleading in behalf of the rebel Lords, losing thereby a pension of £2500 per annum, and his appointment. He left an only daughter, Mary, by his first wife, who married first to the Marquis of Halifax, and secondly to the Duke of Roxburghe. The Earl's second wife was Anne, only daughter of Christopher, Viscount Hatton. By will he entailed the property on his first

* Richard Lord Rich had a grant of the manor in 1546, and the advowson went in his family likewise. There are documents in the Hundred that show that in the 29th year of Henry VIII. that prince sold to Sir Richard Rich, marsh land in Foulness, called New Marsh, that was formerly part of the possessions of the Priory of Leighes, near Felstead. This New Marsh and other lands were leased from Thomas Ellys, the Prior of Leighs, or Lyghes, to W. Harris, of Mondon, and in 1548, in the 2nd year of Edward VI, Sir Richard Rich sold New Marsh and other lands in Foulness to the said William Harris.

† Burley on the Hill, near Oakham, was purchased by this nobleman of the Duke of Buckingham (who was much involved in debt), it being then almost in ruins, in which state it had remained for many years after the Restoration. The Earl rebuilt it in its present form, and enclosed the park with a stone wall of nearly six miles round. It now contains 1085 acres, and is covered with large oak, elm, and beech trees. It possesses some very rich scenery, with a curious grotto. It continued the principal residence of that noble family, until the ninth Earl bequeathed it to George Finch, Esq.

and other sons in tail male. The title of Winchilsea* devolved upon him only a few months before his death, which took place upon January 1st, in 1729-30. He was succeeded by Daniel the eldest son by his second wife, who became eighth Earl of Winchilsea and third Earl of Nottingham. His Lordship married first in 1729 to Lady Frances Fielding, daughter of the Earl of Denbigh, and secondly in 1737-8, to Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Palmer, Baronet, of Wingham, in Kent, by whom he had eight daughters, and having enjoyed the property for 40 years, died without male issue, in 1769, at the age of 80. The honours and estate devolved upon his nephew George (who was only 17 at his uncle's death), and who became ninth Earl of Winchilsea and fourth Earl of Nottingham. He was the son of the Honourable William Finch (the second son of the second Earl of Nottingham), who married for his second wife Charlotte,—governess to the family of George III., and daughter of Thomas Fermor, first Earl of Pomfret. The ninth Earl held the property about 57 years, and suffered a recovery and cut off the entail. He died unmarried, in 1826, and by his will bequeathed the property, which comprises two-thirds of the island, to the present owner, George Finch, Esq. He married in 1832 Lady Louisa Somerset, the fifth daughter of the Duke of Beaufort; by her he has four children, viz., Louisa, George, Charlotte and Henry. His eldest

* Leland says the family say their name was originally Herbert, but they acquired the name of Finch from marriage with the heiress of a "Finche." And in Braborne Church is an inscription, where the name is written Herbert, alias Finch. The Finch family seem to have had an hereditary eminence in the study and practice of the law ever since the reign of James I., in whose time Sir Henry Finch was a learned serjeant-at-law, and was the author of "Nomotechnos," a valuable work, though perhaps partaking something of the quibbling spirit of that period. Sir Heneage Finch was Recorder of London in the reign of Charles I., and Sir John Finch was Speaker in the House of Commons, during the same reign, and it was he, who was forcibly held in the chair, on his refusing to countenance their proceedings. He is said to have always abhorred Elliott's doctrine, "that men should not be questioned for offences in Parliament," as if that reverend assembly were called for no other purpose, than that turbulent spirits might be at liberty to speak treason once every three years.

son (the member for Rutland) married the eldest daughter of Mr. and Lady Louisa Balfour, who is deceased. By her he has three children, Margaret, Alan, and Gwendoline. Alan, 5 years old, is the heir in tail male. Mr. Finch has the reputation of being a kind and considerate landlord, and in 1837 his portrait (painted by S. Laurence) was presented to him by the tenantry. The presentation took place in the ancient hall in the Castle, at Oakham, whose walls are hung round with numerous horse shoes, being tributes to the Lords of Oakham, from every horse belonging to a peer, upon his first entering the manor. The farms owned by Mr. Finch in Foulness are "Great* and Little Shelford, the Quay or Munkenbarns, Old Hall, Lodge, Nazewick, Ridge Marsh, East and West Newlands, New Wick, New House or Tree Farm, East-wick, and Priestwood.

"Rugwood" was formerly the property of William Meakens, of Habathalls, in Little Wakering, who died November 4th, 1808, aged 68 years. He married his wife (who came from the North of England, and was niece of the Rev. Thomas Thompson, late rector of Foulness) from the Rectory House, where she was residing during Ellwood's curacy. Meakens at that time resided at Little Brick House, where his eldest daughter, Mrs. Going, was born. He left this property to his son James, who dying intestate, his nieces Mary Meakens, the third wife of Dr. George Richard Hilliard, and Ellen, wife of the Rev. W. M.

* Shelford and Bradworth consisting of two messuages and 600 acres of fresh marsh, situate in Foulness. and being in the parishes of Little Wakering, Shopland and Sutton, were purchased by Sir Richard Riche, Lord Riche jointly, of Thomas Shaa, and Anne his wife, subject to certain suits due to the honor court of Rayleigh. According to a terrier of the possessions of Sir Robert Riche, Knight, Lord Riche taken in 1557, Shelford was in the tenure of William Bourne, and was "worth in the farm of the same by the year £20 12s. 2d." Monk barn in the tenure of the widow of William Lawson. Rugworth in Thomas Rawlyn and Robert Lawson. Newewick in Richard and Robert Justice. Nasewick in Thomas and John Harryson, and worth £22 per annum. Estwick in Edward Bury, and worth £14 6s. per annum. One moiety of Southwick, otherwise Fulness Hall, in Edward Rawlyn, and the other moiety and Arundell Marsh in the executors of John Harryson. Great Lodge was held by Edward Bury in 1583.

Kerr, rector of Nevendon, inherited as joint heiresses.

"Small Ports" was in the Asser family in the last century, and descended from them to the Drew, White, and Welch families. Upon the death of the late John Gregory Welch, his son George Asser White Welch* sold this farm to William Andrews, of Romford. The premises are now pulled down, and the land is added to Small Gains, where a covered home-stall has been erected at a considerable outlay.

"Small Gains" was at one time in the Catlin family. After the decease of Thomas Bannester Catlin, it was sold at Garraway's coffee house, and purchased by Mr. Andrews in 1859.

"Great Burwood" formerly belonged to Thomas Lowndes,† of Blackheath, a barrister. He died about 1842, leaving his estates to George Alan Clayton, now residing at Barrington Hall, Hatfield Broad Oak, who took the name of Lowndes. The trustees under the will of Thomas Lowndes (Sir Richard Paul Joddrell and Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson) sold the estate in 1849 (being the result of a friendly chancery suit for family convenience), to the present owner, John Page, of the Royal Terrace, Southend. He is the only son of the late John Page, of Turrett House, Rayleigh, and Lydia, daughter of the late Thomas Harvey, of Reeves Hall, Mersea. He is married to his first cousin Mary, the eldest daughter of Robert Page, late of Down Hall, Bradwell. Their grandfather held Mayland Hall, in Dengie Hundred, for many years.

"Little Burwood," formerly one property, has been divided. It was sold by two co-heiresses, part to John Page, and the other to the late Stephen Allen. The latter moiety, called New House, now belongs to

* For an account of a payment out of this farm to the Vicarage of Barling, see that parish.

† His mother was related to the family of Milnes, of Wakefield, in Yorkshire. His aunt, Esther Milnes, married Thomas Day, likewise a barrister, a literary and political character, and one of that family, Betsy Milnes, was wife of Samuel Thornton, governor of the Bank of England.

his daughter Charlotte, widow of Bennet Forster. Old people can remember the creek, which is now enclosed, being navigable to this farm on the northern side.

"Buttons Marsh and Parish Marsh" are charged with £10 per annum to keep up the walls of Rushley Island. This charge was created by Francis Bannister, who died January 24th, 1805, and is buried in a vault in Little Wakering churchyard. This property was purchased by Stephen Allen, senr., (Parish Marsh in 1836) and the whole is now in Mrs. C. Allen, of Torells-hall, in Thurrock, widow of Golden Allen.

There is evidence that "Littlehouse," now incorporated with "Foxes," was formerly the property of William Corbet* in 1678, and of George Neale in 1682, who sold it the same year to Peter "Lodick"† yeoman, of Shopland, who died December 29th, 1718, in his 60th year, and was buried in that churchyard, where his monument remains. His wife's name was Margaret, who survived him, and subsequently married William Cripps. The issue of Peter and Margaret Lodwick were Peter,§ Jeremias, *John* and Thomas. Thomas,‡ the youngest, was unfortunately drowned, March 26th, 1725, in the 18th year of his age. In Barling churchyard, upon his monument, we read,

"All you that behold my short date,
Consider it may be your fate."

Jeremias, the second son, succeeded to this property in accordance to his father's will, in 1719, being

* Corbet's family were long connected with a property in the Island, called "Clod Hall," formerly the "White Lyon." They kept the King's Head in 1805. The name Corbet was subsequently corrupted into Corby. The arms of Corbet are a corbie, or raven.

† He bought Springcoate, now part of Foxes, in 1699 of Joseph Edingham.

§ Peter Lodwick, junr., son of Peter and Margaret, died June 24th, 1721, in the 20th year of his age.

‡ General Lodwick wears a mourning ring for Thomas Lodwick, which was ploughed up in one of the fields.

of the age of 16; but dying 23rd December, 1730, aged 27 years, his brother *John* came into possession of "Little House" as next heir, and upon the death of his mother, Margaret Cripps, March 30th, 1731, aged 60 years, he inherited certain "horse pastures," or "horse grasses," which she had purchased after her husband's death of Sarah Morebeck. The so-called horse grasses are rights that formerly belonged to the fishermen of turning their horses to graze on certain farms belonging to the Lord, but, though still existing, are now diverted from their original purposes, and commuted into money payments. These horse pastures, according to records, were in existence in 1632. He likewise possessed a property on the "ridge," called a fowling, and another on Estwick (belonging to Thomas Rutland in 1664), which is described, as being both within, and without the sea bank. They probably comprehended the black grounds, which extended along the fleets, before their enclosure. The fowling on the ridge, which remained in the family until the present century, was the property of Thomas and John Staple* in the 13th year of James I. Lodwick likewise possessed upon the shore several fishing grounds, called "Kiddles." A kiddle, now called a kettle, consists of a net, erected upon the sands, about four feet high, in the form of the letter A with a purse at the extremity. Upon the retreat of the tide are found enclosed flat fish, thorn-back skates,† (the females of which are called maids), cole or bass fish, grey mullets, soles, &c. The fish so taken are frequently smothered, and sold at a low price on the spot; but the live ones are placed temporarily within

* John Staple, junr., held in 1635 a certain piece of sand for "casting hooks," and taking fish. He died, according to tradition, of the plague, upon the "5th of February, 1661, in the 50th year of his age." He is buried in a vault in Sutton Churchyard.

† The thorn-back skate derives its name from the armature of the tail. It has attained to twelve feet in length and nearly ten in width.

the walls in corves floating in salt water pits.* These kiddles, which formerly were in various owners, had singular names, such as "Spelnett, Plecke, Stair kiddie, Hall-place, the Beakene, Teape, Marlow, Spete kiddie, Tryvine, New kiddie, East kiddie, Kneedepe, Half ebb, Summer kiddie, Owse, Buffot, Fryday, Elbow, Farthing, Tepiskiddle, Waters, Pindar, Wateacre, Kiddleman, Marter, Unready, and Saturday. John Lodwick, who was a justice of the peace, died 24th March, 1767, aged 68 years, and his tomb-stone tells us, "worthily lamented by all his friends and acquaintance." He is supposed to have lived at Barling, where he was buried. His wife, Jane, survived until 17th May, 1771, aged 67 years. Their daughter Jane died December 16th, 1751, aged 17 years: and another, Eleanor, was married in 1767 to Morton Miller, surgeon, of Great Wakering, and died 6th January, 1814, aged 78. His will was made the day previous to his decease, wherein he left his property in the island to his two sons, Peter† and John. He left his youngest son *John*, who resided at the Bamfleet farm at North Shoebury, "Little house," his horse pastures and kiddie grounds, and the moiety of the fowling called the "Ridge." He died in 1792, aged 52 years, and is buried in a vault in Great Wakering churchyard. His daughter Judith, the first wife of the Rev. J. M. Sumner, who died in 1800, aged 28, lies with him, and likewise his wife, Elizabeth, (daughter of Jeremiah Kersteman) who died in 1824, aged 79. His daughter Elizabeth married, in 1795, William Peart,§ then of the parish of St. Olave, Hart's-street,

* The whole ditch surrounding certain property in the island, for instance "Birds land," is claimed by the owners on this account. The Lord formerly exercised the power of amercing those who did not scour their ditches, called "fleame ditches."

† See under the Dragon alias "Dove house."

§ Peart died shortly after the marriage, which so alarmed James Kendal Browne, another in the trade, that in reply to an invitation to visit the Hundred, he replied that Peart had done so, caught an ague, and died, and the thought of his fate always prevented him.

London, a corn-factor. She died at Ealing, Middlesex, February 7th, 1832, in the 65th year of her age, and a monument* is erected to her memory in Great Wakering Church, and her remains lie in a vault in that churchyard. Another daughter, Dorothy, married Colonel Foley. Their father left three sons, *John*. *Peter*,† and *Kersteman*. *John*, who lived many years at Rochford Hall, was a Magistrate and deputy Lieutenant for this County, and succeeded his father in the property in Foulness, and married *Ann* Prentice Burchell,§ at North Shoebury, in 1800. By her he had a numerous family, some of whom are now scattered in the various colonies. His eldest son, *John*, entering His Majesty's service, distinguished himself on the coast of Africa, in an encounter with a slave ship, in 1845, an engraving of which appeared in the "Illustrated London News." He died shortly afterwards of fever, aged 35 years, and a monument is erected to his memory on the south wall, of the south aisle of Rochford Church. *Mrs. Ann* Prentice Lodwick died 7th June, 1843, in the 63rd year of her age, at Rochford Hall, and *John* Lodwick, May 30th, 1857, at Westbourne-terrace, Bishops-road, and was interred at Kensal Green cemetery. After his decease "Foxes" and "Little House," his horse pastures, and the fishery or kiddles on Ley Sands, were sold to *Joseph* Reeve, of Bolts,

* For the inscription see Great Wakering.

† *Peter* entered the army and is now a general. He obtained a cadetship to India in the year 1800 at the age of 16, and after serving 30 years of actual service, has the good fortune to find himself the father of the Bombay Army, standing at the head of the army list. His only son is Deputy Accountant General at Madras. *Kersteman* lived at Lambourne Hall; his first wife, *Eleanor* Burchell, died in 1815, aged 27, and was buried in the family vault at Great Wakering. Her sister, *Ann* Prentice, married his brother *John*, and another, *Elizabeth* Lanceley, to *Dr. Jonas* Asplin, of Wakering Hall, in 1799.

§ A stained glass window was erected to her memory in the chancel of South Shoebury Church, in 1856. To accomplish this, the valuable glass of the 16th century, placed therein by the *Rev. C. J. Wasey*, was removed, and totally destroyed. See South Shoebury. She was buried in a vault in Rochford churchyard.

in Barling, who acquired them in 1858.

"Smoky, or Sooty Hall," and other property derived from William Cripps, was in moieties at an early period. Susan, wife of Henry Berriman, died in possession of certain shares. She had for co-heiresses, three sisters, of whom Elizabeth was the wife of Isaac Higham, and Susan wife of John Turner. They came into possession in 1681. George Asser succeeded to the share of Elizabeth Higham in 1690, who together with Asser Vassall sold their property in Foulness, in 1697, to Samuel Nott. His son Samuel inherited the same, in 1720,* and sold it to John Cook, in 1723. His son John, of Leigh, Doctor of Physic, had it in 1731, and bequeathed it to one of his younger sons, Lemuel, who had it in 1777. This family sold it in 1791, to John Lodwick. At the death of the late John Lodwick, of Rochford Hall, it was sold in 1858, to John Guiver, who is deceased, and it still remains in that family. The other moiety of "Smoky Hall," and two acres of land, was bought by Robert Witham,† a citizen and vintner of London, in 1719, of John and Abigail§ Berryman. Witham died 1729-30. His brother Nathaniel was next heir, who died circa 1743. He bequeathed the property to his wife Jane, who afterwards married Jonathan Wilkinson. She died circa 1766, leaving the estate to her neice, Penelope Sandford, who sold it to John Lodwick, in 1770, who afterwards united the two moieties.

The St. George and Dragon public house, formerly consisting of two cottages called the "Dove House," belonged to Richard Jackson, who sold the same in 1681, to Joseph Allen, who resold it to William Bishop in 1686. The latter conveyed his rights therein in 1696 to *John* Lodwick (contemporary with Peter

* His daughter's name was Elizabeth, and he was kinsman to Samuel Nott, of South Shoebury. One of this family, James Nott, who died in 1721, aged 44 years, has a monument in Foulness churchyard.

† See North Shoebury.

§ Her maiden name was Palfreman.

"Lodick"). His wife's name was Elizabeth, and he died *circa* 1699. He left four daughters co-heiresses, Elizabeth, Jane, Frances, and Sarah. Sarah died young, Elizabeth married a Gibson, Jane, or Jean, a Kennett, and Frances a Cannon. They sold this property to John Lodwick, of Barling, who died in 1767, and who bequeathed it to his eldest son *Peter*, of Crouchmans, in North Shoebury. He was married in 1759 at that parish church, to Elizabeth Kennett,* widow; the marriage ceremony being performed by the Rev. Luke Imber, and the two Christopher Parsons' of that day being witnesses. The happy couple rode to church on horseback, the bride being seated upon a pillion behind her betrothed. Peter died (*circa* 1790), and left an only child, Eleanor, who first married, in 1778, Golden Burchell,† of Flete Hall, in Sutton, and secondly William Swaine,§ of Sutton, and afterwards of Shenley, in Hertfordshire. The Swaines sold this property in 1793, to Samuel Tabor, brewer, of Colchester, and it was purchased subsequently by Samuel Patmore, who died in 1829, leaving a son and several daughters. His son Philip Patmore, of Cricksea, now possesses it. Of the daughters, Mary married Stephen Allen, junr., Charlotte, John Rumble, of Southend; Phœbe, William Allen; Mercy, Dr. W. H. Sheehy; and Christiana, Morton Miller, of Rochford.

There is a small property now consisting of a beer shop and land, called "Pond Marsh," that was formerly in Charles Tyrell, of Suffolk, and was sold by him, together with the Rectorial tithes of Shopland, being in Foulness, to Peter Asplin, of West Tilbury, in 1828. He sold them to Samuel Turner, of Chad-

* Her daughter, Mary Kennett, married Francis Asplin, of Little Wakering Hall, in 1771.

† See Sutton and North Shoebury.

§ William Swaine was brother of Dr. Swaine, of Rochford, and his daughter Mary married the Rev. Thomas Scott Scrutton, late rector of Sutton.

well, who died in 1831, aged 64 years. They were next in the possession of his nephew, Richard Turner, who died in 1842, aged 39. After his death Pond Marsh was sold to Mrs. Charlotte Forster, and the tithes were purchased by the Rev. Robert Firmin, of Suffolk.

"Little Brick house," or New Rugwood, formerly "New Marsh," was at one time in Stephen Allen, junr., but now in his son-in-law, J. W. Stallibrass, of Eastwood. This place has been burnt several times. A skeleton was found about 40 years ago, buried in the great stable, about two feet deep, near the chaff-bin, suggestive of murder and lawless habits. It was supposed to be that of a man who disappeared after harvest, about 14 years previously.

Foulness parish has two cottages and gardens (1 acre, 2 roods, and 32 poles), near the church. This property, at that time a public house, was bought of Mrs. Bennewith (mother of the Foulness champion), in 1825, and used as a workhouse until the passing of the new poor law act. Since then the rents are accounted for to the auditor every half year.

The Sumner family formerly possessed a small freehold property near Rugwood, consisting of a blacksmith's shop, four cottages, and two acres of land, which were sold in 1849, to George Webb, of 111, High-street, Whitechapel.

In the reign of Charles II., there was a tenement, called "Demon's tenement," which we are unable to trace; but Charles Divel is mentioned in the churchwardens' book in 1749.

"Old Barns" belongs to George Wood, of Rochford. He purchased it of the late William Potton, who died in 1826. The Potton family have owned and held property in the island for a lengthened period, holding "Priestwood" under the Finch family. William Potton's signature, who died in 1803, occurring in 1754, in the churchwardens' book, during the curacy of

Robert Dod. Tradition ascribes the origin and name of the Potton family to a poor friendless lad who was cast ashore upon the island of that name, and who afterwards rose to position and competence.

"Pissmire" in the early part of the reign of Charles I. was in Edmund Palmers, but William Potter came into possession in the seventh year of that monarch's reign, and in 1633 sold it to Peter Cripps, who disposed of it in 1640 to Eustace Kennet, who by his wife Jane Scot, left two sons, John and Nicholas. He bequeathed this property to his second son, Nicholas, who had it in 1654. His tomb, which is in Great Wakering churchyard, tells us he had issue by Dorothy his wife, who survived him, sixteen sons and three daughters. He departed this life the 14th day of May, 1713, aged 75. His eldest son Nicholas succeeded him. He died (*circa* 1729) leaving an only daughter and heiress, named Mary, the wife of Isaac Hyam. They sold it to Richard Kennet, of South Shoebury, for the term of his natural life, and after his decease to Thomas Kennet, the second son of the said Richard. Thomas Kennet sold it in 1752, to John Cause, who dying in 1760 bequeathed it to his son Thomas, then 11 years old. Upon attaining his majority, in 1770, he sold the property to his eldest brother John,* of South Shoebury, who died in 1776, aged 40, and left the estate to his widow, Susannah, who married Henry Fisher, of Great Wakering, in 1777. She died in 1805, aged 63. It has since been in the Frost family, then in John Daines and Thomas Wiggins. John Wiggins sold it in 1819, to John Knapping, of Suttons, who died 20th of May, 1833, aged 68 years. He married Mary the widow of W. King, (formerly Mary Dale, of "Swaines," in Rochford,) who died April 14th, 1834, aged 71 years. The estate now belongs to their grandson, Dale Knapping, of Suttons,

* The tomb of John Cause and Susannah Fisher are in Great Wakering churchyard.

in South Shobury, and Blackheath, in Kent.

"White House, or Binns," was first called the west part of the New Marsh, in Foulness, in the parishes of Little Stambridge and Sutton. It was formerly in the Hawker family, who can be traced from 1715, but was purchased in 1802 by the late Edward Bliss, of Brandon Park, Suffolk, J.P., and High Sheriff for that county in 1836. He was son of Edward Bliss, M.D., by Mary Clark, his wife, and grandson of Edward Bliss and Elizabeth Brown, his wife. He was born December 20th, 1774, and married 28th of October, 1797, Sarah, second daughter of the Rev. Aquila Scatchard and Sarah, his wife, but died without issue, April 2nd, 1845. He was extremely wealthy, his property being valued at nearly half a million, some of which was acquired as an army contractor. Brandon Park and the whole of the other property passed under his will, subject to certain annuities, to his nephew, Henry Aldridge, a barrister, son of James Aldridge by Elizabeth, his wife, and grandson of John Aldridge, of Hampshire, J.P., Deputy Lieutenant of the county, who by royal sign manual assumed the surname and arms of Bliss, on succeeding to the property of his uncle. His seats are Brandon Park, Suffolk; Northcombe Hall, Devon; The Elms, Sussex; and Berkeley House, Hyde Park Square, Middlesex. He is J. P. for the same county, F. R. S. L., and was created a Baron of the kingdom of Portugal, in 1855. The Baron has lately married the eldest daughter of the Rev. R. Baker, M. A., rector of Frisdon-cum-Snape, in the county of Suffolk, and by his marriage has male issue to inherit this and the other estates. During the present year, 1869, the Baron has notified the public, that in compliance with the will of Colonel Carlo Antonio Barreto, of the kingdom of Spain, dated 3rd day of January, 1867, in which he bequeathed him, the Baron, his heirs, and assigns for ever, all his estates, vineyards, plantations, lands, and all other his property

in the kingdom of Spain, and in all other kingdoms, he has adopted the surname of Barreto, in those countries where the testator possessed estates.

"Binn House" was tenanted by George Asser Vassal in 1768, and by Beckworth in 1800. It was the first occupation of Stephen Allen, senr., of Paglesham House, in this county. He and his wife, Sarah Fowlks, came from Tenterden, in Kent, (*circa* 1805). This family has no connection whatever with the old family of that name, formerly residing in the island, and whose progenitor, Jonas Allen, died in 1698.

The "Windmill" was erected upon a piece of waste belonging to the Lord, by John Chandler. His son James came into possession in 1805. He, together with Thirza his wife, sold it in 1824 to Stephen Allen, senr. Upon a partition of his estate, after his decease, this was assigned to his son Charles in 1850. He is since dead, and it now belongs to his relict, the wife of Henry Cross, of Barling. Several cottages have been lately built upon the waste and added to the property.

A cottage and two kiddles were owned in 1755 by Ralph Desborough, (son of a person of that name) a blacksmith at Great Wakering. He married Mary only daughter of John Pye of Foulness. This Cottage was forfeited to the Lord in 1757 on account of its being "ruinated." The name Desborough or Desbrow occasionally occurs in the Hundred. In Rochford churchyard is a monument to "Mary, wife of Ralph Desbrow of this parish, who died April 3rd, 1751, aged 33." This family were probably descendants of Major General Desbrow, the famous parliamentarian, and whose successors had the manor of Tremnals in Downham for several generations.

"Great Reynolds," with two Cottages called "Pekiscote and Sacriscote," situate at Courts End, together with kiddles, horse grasses and hooking

grounds* were in Edward Salmon and William Stevens in 1614. These persons sold the property in 1632 to *Robert Chester*, who died in 1649. His heir was *John Moore*, son of John Moore and Elizabeth Chester his wife, only sister of the said Robert Chester. He married Frances, daughter of Captain Craven, and left one son *Chester Moore*, and one daughter Sarah, the wife of Jehu Hall, of Poplar. The sons succeeded to this estate in 1672. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Stephens of Leigh, Surgeon. His only son, *Chester Moore*, succeeded him in 1685, being then an infant. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Admiral Aylmer, and died in 1695 without issue. The estate then came to his two aunts, *Sarah* wife of Jehu Hall† and *Elizabeth*, wife of William Hurst. Sarah Hall died in 1709-10, and by will dated 19th January 1709, she left her moiety to her niece, *Sarah Hall*, then 8 years old, the daughter of Ann Hall, at that time the wife of John Cornish. Sarah Hall dying without issue, was succeeded according to the provision in her aunt's will by *Jehu Hall*, her cousin, in 1723. The moiety of Elizabeth Hurst, was bequeathed by her, by will dated 9th April, 1725, to *Samuel Cockerton*, aged about 9 years, son of Samuel Cockerton, of Rayleigh, who inherited it in 1729, but dying without issue between 1757 and 1762 was succeeded by his nephew *William*, only son of his brother of the same name. Upon Jehu Hall's death, his moiety descended to his son, *Chester Moore Hall*, in 1730. He left it at his death in 1771 to his sister *Martha Hall*, who by will dated 18th August, 1782 left it to the above William Cockerton, who succeeded upon her death in 1783, thus uniting the

* Flounders, dabs, and plaice are caught on the hooking grounds; this mode of fishing is called "banding." The band consists of a line about 120 feet long, at the extremities of which are two pegs to attach it to the sand, the hooks are merely thorns, baited with log worm: these baits are about two feet apart, 60 on the line; each bait being suspended by a shorter line of horse-hair, called a snood, about six inches long.

† Arms of Hall. Argent, three talbots heads erased, between nine cross crosslets, sable. Crest. A talbot's head.

moieties. He died April 8th, 1815, aged 63, but the property was alienated by him, and acquired by Edward Bird, (*circa* 1805,) whose wife Sarah had it after his decease. Hers was the first corpse carried into the new church in Foulness. Her sons John, Philip, and Alfred, and a daughter, Mary Anne, are now partly owners of the property.

"Pear Tree," situate at "Coates End," was in the Cripps family from an early period, for we find in 1643, John Cripps, then an infant, was admitted, subject to the guardianship of Susan Allen his mother. He inherited the property from his Cousins. This family, who were very numerous, possessed divers property in the Island (amongst other "London coate") from the time of the earliest records, and were persons of considerable local note, forming alliances with the best families then residing in the Hundred, (including the Assers, Vassals and Lodwicks.) John Cripps was succeeded by his son John in 1704. His wife's name was Jane. Their son Richard, being only 5 years old, inherited it in 1719. After his death, *circa* 1765, his widow Martha was entitled to one third for her life, and at her death the whole was vested in their son Richard, who was 12 years old at his father's death. In 1819 it was sold by his son William Cripps to William Potton, of Foulness, who re-sold it in 1826 to the Rev. Thomas Archer. His executors sold it in 1832 to the late James Wright Wood, of Great Stambridge, who died January 9th, 1839, aged 43 years. Wood, who was steward* to Mr. Finch, was son of Charles Wood, of Heybridge, in which parish his predecessors were located for several generations. The property now belongs to his widow Sophia, daughter of James Wiseman, of Paglesham, who died in 1843, aged 90. Her mother, who died the same year, was daughter of the Rev. Charles Ley, of Layer Marney.

* The management of these estates has been in his family for about 70 years, being now in his nephew John, son of John Wood, of Langford.

Morant tells us there were six farms here (*circa* 1768,) owned by Thomas Drew, Edward Hawker, of Great Baddow, Mr. Weldon, of London, Samuel Filmer, of Staple-hyrst, in Kent, Peter Moorbeck, of Foulness, and Mr. Kealey.

The following are extracts from the Churchwarden's books :—

"John Parratt churchwarden in 1749. November 3rd, 1749, paid for six pesses* for the church, (these in 1807 are called pessecks.) 1750, John Burchell, churchwarden. 1753, Giles Bell, churchwarden. 1754, John Lodwick held Small Ports, and subsequently Eastwick. Mrs. Brawn, Nase Wick. John Parratt, the west end of Great Burwood. Jonathan Crozier, who was Churchwarden in 1764, West Shelford, Edward Kennett, Great Burwood, Golden Prentice,† Monken-barns. 1759, Abraham Beard, churchwarden, who held Bin house. 1765, Mrs. Burchell and Mr. Potton, Priestwood. Nightingall, East Shelford. Giles Bell, Old-hall. 1766, William Potton, Churchwarden. 1768, George Asser Vassal held Bin house and Small Ports. Messrs. C. and T. Parsons, Ridge Marsh. 1780, Francis Bannester, Nasewick. 1805, Charles Asplin, Great Burwood. Stephen Allen, Binn House. 1808, William Meakens, New Marsh (now called Little Brick House) and Rugwood. 1811, William Prentice, the Lodge. 1821, Thomas Wiggins, New Wick. James Eicke, Old-hall. John Kemp, Nasewick. Thomas Laver, Great Shelford. John Knapping, Ridge Marsh. 1826, John Kebble, Nasewick. Charles Packman, Old-hall. Richard Potton, Priestwood. Samuel Patmore, part of New House. Samuel Mitchell, West Burwood. John Rumble, Little Burwood. 1828, John and Charles Page, Ridge Marsh, and East and West Newlands. 1831, James D. Pattisson, Eastwick, who succeeded William King. Charles Harvey,

* *i.e.*—Hassocks.

† This farm was held by his son and grandson.

Nasewick. John Knapping, New Wick. John Parsons, Rugwood. In 1839 the *parishioners* nominated the church clerk, William Hemstead, at a vestry meeting, (public notice having previously been given.)

Dr. T. Fuller, in his "Worthies in Essex." p. 348, tells us that "In 1648 an army of mice, nesting in ant-hills, shaved off the grass at the bare roots, which withering to dung, was infectious to cattle. The March following, numbers of owls flew hither and destroyed them." The owls here alluded to were probably of the species called the "short-eared owl," (*Strix Brachyotos*) which frequently visits these marshes during the winter months, and feeds upon mice and small birds. It is locally called the marsh or grass owl. The horns or ears consist of not more than three feathers, and the wings, which are long, extend beyond the tail. A specimen of this species, shot in Rushley, may be seen at the Post Office, Great Wakering. Besides this species the brown owl or howlet, and the white or screech owl, are common. There are other writers besides Fuller, who relate strange stories. Purchas, in the 14th chapter and the 9th book of the first edition of the "Pilgrimage," after describing the flying ants of Hispaniola, says, that on "Bartholomew day, 1613, he was in the Island of Foulennesse on our Essex shore, where were such clouds of these flying pismires*, that wee could nowhere flie from them, but they filled our clothes; yea the floores of some houses where they fell, were in manner covered with a blacke carpet of creeping ants; which they say drowne themselves about that time of the yere in the sea."

There are no adders, but a few snakes; the latter have occasionally been caught in the channel by the dredger-men. There are toads, but no frogs. In 1841 a badger was found in the sea-wall of White House farm, and one made his appearance in New

* There is a property in the island called by this name.

England about the same time. The peregrine falcon, locally known as the puttock, is a frequent visitor. It carries away ducks, chickens, and has even been known to stoop and seize a partridge, when it has fallen by the gun of the sportsman. This falcon was much prized by our ancestors, and was used by them in the days of falconry. It generally attacks its prey by striking its victim with its breast, and stunning it, before seizing it with its claws. Its weight is about $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb. The common wild pigeon, known as the stock dove (*Columba ænas*), whose habit generally is to build in the holes of trees, has occasionally been met with in deserted rabbit holes on warrens, and instances of this kind have been found on little Shelford, in old county walls. The nest, in lieu of other materials, simply consists of a little dried grass. The bar goose occasionally rears its young in haulm walls, &c. The stone pecker, known as the "turnstone" (*tringa interpres*) is frequent on the shore during its autumn migration in August and September. In the sea walls in summer, numerous humble bees, (*anthophora acervorum*, Linneus) construct their cells. The males are of a buff colour, the females black, and their honey is extracted partially from the flowers on the black grounds. The sea lavender, or lavender thrift (*statice limonium*), flourishes outside the walls, and the tamarisk, a small shrub which delights in brackish soil, is frequently met with in the island; some say the original one was brought from Holland, whilst others assert it was found floating in the tide. In the creeks whitebait is frequently caught.

Morant, alluding to the Church (pulled down in 1850), says, previous to this fabric upon the same site, "was a chapel institutive, presented to by Lady Joane de Bohun, in 1386, and from that time by lords of the manor. This chapel being slenderly provided for, and the curate little resident, a chantry was founded and endowed in 1408, by the same Joan. The chantry

priest was to perform all offices for the inhabitants, who by reason of the swelling of the water, could not always resort to their proper parish churches of Rochford, Sutton, Little Wakering, Shopland, Eastwood, and Little Stanbridge. This was by authority of Richard Giffard, Bishop of London, and consent of all parties concerned. The glebe was then settled, and this chaplain was to have all the tythes, oblations and spiritual profits, here belonging to the ministers of the parish churches above mentioned, payable from the inhabitants of this island. The right of patronage of the said chantry was in the archbishop, the Countess, and the rest of the lords of the said manor or island of Foulness; and they all presented, jointly, in the year 1408, and the respective lords of this manor presented to the chapel from this period to 1547. Chantries being dissolved, this chapel was erected into a rectory, and as such presented to, first in 1554, and ever since." By this arrangement, no chaplain of this chantry, whilst he served the *cure*, could accept of any other benefice whatsoever; neither could he absent himself without just cause, for more than three or four days, without a substitute. The chaplain was also to maintain in repair, the chapel, the house, and the sea walls about the lands,* and there were ordered to be three copies of the indenture, one for the lords of the manor, one for the Bishop of London, and the third to remain with the chaplain for the time being. If the chaplain did not observe the ordinances therein contained, he was liable to be deprived. From other sources we find that in 1461, Edward IV. granted to Anne, Dutchess of Exeter (afterwards divorced), the King's sister, this advowson (together with the manor). This was in consequence of the attainder of James Boteler, the fifth Earl of Ormond, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Towton, fighting on the Lancastrian side, and beheaded by the Yorkists, at

* These lands are now about the centre of the island.

Newcastle, May 1st, 1461. Sir Thomas Grey (created Marquis of Dorset), Edward IV's son-in-law, afterwards had the patronage. The Boteler family recovered their rights upon the reversal of the attainder, upon the accession of Henry VII.

From a document dated the 16th of Henry VIII., it appears that Richard Crymble returned an account of the tithes and other profits, coming or growing, of the parsonage of Foulness for one year. These receipts amounted to £34 17s. 4½d., and he gives the following disbursements:—"Paid to the prior of Prittlewell for the whole year's farm of such tithes as he hath in Foulness, at Michaelmas last past, £6 13s 4d., also paid to the parson of Sutton for the tithes of the farm of Rugwood and other, £1 6s. 8d. by my master's commandment, unto such time, as it is determined between the parson of Foulness and him, and if it fortune to be tried against the said parson of Sutton, then he to repay the same money; also paid to the parson of Foulness for his wages for three-quarters of a year within the time of this account, at 20 marks by the year, over and besides one quarter's wages allowed him in the last account, £10; also paid to the same parson for his livery gown at 40s. a year, as appeareth by the indenture, over and besides 10s. allowed in the said account next before, £1 10s; also paid for the gathering of the tithe wheat, barley, and mustard seed, 8s. 4d., and for thrashing and making clean of 9 seme of mustard seed and a half, 8s." Then follows the parson's bill, "Allowed to the parson for bread, 5s. and wine for the whole year towith, for the housling* bread, 14d., and wine at Easter. Tapers for the autler, 16d., 2 pound of wax for betingt† light, wax

* Derived from housel (Saxon), the blessed Eucharist. See the speech of the Ghost in Hamlet, act i, scene v. —

"Cut off, even in the blossoms of my sin,
Unhousel'd, disappointed, unanel'd."

† A light kept up before a monument, derived from the Saxon word, Beden, or Biddan, to pray, or the German Beten.

for the trentill* 4d., for synage† 2s., proxy 5s., for a general for bread 12d., and drink on Maunday Thursday 6d.," the total amount 18s. "Sum allowed £21 3s. 4d., and he owes £13 14s. 0½d., which are charged in the account of the said accountant in his account for Rochford, and so here he is quit, as fully appears at the foot thereof."

An indenture bearing date December 21st, 1529, in the reign of Henry VIII., shows that the tithes of Foulness and the manor were leased by the prior of the Monastery of Prittlewell to Richard Crymbell,§ bailiffe to the Earl of Wiltshire and Ormond (formerly Sir Thomas Bullen), for fourteen years for the sum of £6 13s. 4d. per annum. In 1536, upon the suppression of the Monastery of Prittlewell, this Richard Crymble rendered an account to the Crown of the révenues derived under this lease, and in 1538 he was compelled to surrender the said lease, granted by Thomas the prior. Mary, sister of Anne Bullen, succeeded to the manor and advowson upon the death of her father, in 1538, and dying in 1543, the estate came to her second husband, Sir William Stafford, Knight. From the inventories of church goods, taken in the sixth year of Edward VI., by William Berners, of Frierning, William Ayloffe, of Bretons, in Hornchurch, and Anthony Browne, of Weald-hall, the commissioners appointed for that purpose, who held their session at Ingatestone (an account of which has been published by the Essex Archæological Society in its fourth volume), it appears that Sir William,‡ then patron of this Church, "Dyde

* Trentill or trental, a service of thirty masses for the dead, usually celebrated on as many different days.

† Synage or synodals, a pecuniary annual payment formerly made to the Bishop; this is now made at the Archdeacon's visitation.—See synod in Hook's Church Dictionary.

§ "Hackwell-hall manor" was leased to John Crymble in 1577, as appears from a terrier of the possessions of Sir Robert Riche, Knight, Lord Riche. For the inscription to Rose Crymwill in 1424, see Rochford.

‡ Sir William likewise carried off the bells from the churches of Rochford, Ashington, South Shoebury, and Hawkwell." One bell was left at Foulness, to summon the people to prayer. A bell was sold in 1779, and a new one substituted at a cost of £10 19s. 11d. Upon the present one is "Pack and Chapman, of London, Fecerunt 1719."

take away the bells weying by estimac'on viij c to maynteyne ye walls against ye see." Richard Lord Riche shortly afterwards acquired this property. He seems to have been dubious of his position, for he took considerable pains to secure his great wealth to his descendants. As early as the first year of this monarch's reign, an act was passed for assuring certain manors and lands to Robert Lord Rich, his grandson; and in subsequent years, he pursued the same cautious course by obtaining grants of confirmation of divers property, either to himself or his descendants.

In 1578, Queen Elizabeth granted Little Burweed, in Foulness, and Munginge Marsh, in Little Shoebury, with covenant to pay £10 yearly to the rector of Fulness, to John Celye, a valet in her scullery.* In 1579, Richard† Lord Rich granted a lease of all his tithes in Foulness to William Rowland (who had been his father's tenant), at the original rental formerly paid by Crymble. The tithes of the whole island in the thirtieth year of Elizabeth were in an unsettled state. Proceedings were taken in the Exchequer respecting the payment of the profits of the glebe land, tithes of corn, and a pension to the parson of Foulness out of Nasewick,§ and there was an order to compel the payment of £8 yearly to William Gould, the parson of Foulness. Dues had then been withheld for five and a half years. This was styled restoring the Church of Foulness, and it appears the former rector, Ellis, had run away. In 1595, Queen Elizabeth granted to John Wells and Henry Best, Little Burweed‡ and other lands, to be held as of our manor of East

* Burweed, now divided into two parts, pays this at the present day.

† This Richard was eldest son of Sir Robert Riche, Knight, and died before his father.

§ Paid at the present day.—See commutation of tithes.

‡ Morant states that Burwood then contained 80 acres, and the grant included 160 acres of salt marsh, formerly belonging to a chantry, situate near the manor of Foulness.

Greenwich, to pay £10 to the rector of Foulness yearly. They had likewise (included in the grant) the rectory of Wykes, in Tendring Hundred, and they covenanted to pay the curate of Wykes £6 13s. 4d. Through the insufficiency of the wording, this caused a lawsuit in 1726. The issue was, Little Burwood was exonerated from the latter charge, as it was shown that payment was intended to come out of the rectory of Wykes. This was decided 134 years after the grant, and it could not be proved that the stipend to "Wicks" was ever before asked for or paid. The plaintiff was John Benison, perpetual curate of Wicks, alias Wykes, and the defendant Frances Hickeringill, impropiator of the rectory, and John Weldale, owner or proprietor of Burweed. In Elizabeth's grant to Wells and Best, there was a reservation of a quit-rent of 40s. on Burweed, and 55s. and 8d. on the rectory of Wykes, to the crown.

In 1620, being the eighteenth James I., Robert, Earl of Warwick leased the tithes of New House farm, in Foulness, to Peter and William Crippes. Morant states that "The Right Hon. Daniel, Earl of Nottingham, improved this rectory by annexing to it the great tithes of Braintree. The settlement was in the time of Mr. George Dell." That historian made this statement upon insufficient evidence, as the Report of the Commissioners for inquiring concerning charities testifies. He mistook the arrangement made by the Earl for a perpetual obligation. These tithes were settled upon Felstead almshouses by Richard Lord Rich, and continue so to this day. By a family settlement in 1729, this patronage was vested in George, Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham, and a private act of Parliament confirming the trust was obtained in 1737. His descendant in 1766, as patron of the estates, directed the sum of £60 (being part of the reserved rents) to be paid to the rector of Foulness out of the rents of Braintree rectory. The payment seems foreign

to the trusts of Felstead Hospital, of which the Earl was governor, and it has long been discontinued. After the passing of the Commutation Act, the whole rent charge payable to the tithe owners, in lieu of tithes, for the district comprising all the lands within the island of Foulness, was fixed at £306 17s. 8d., and the apportionment was made by Samuel Baker, of Hawkwell, and Jeffery Mayn, of Rayleigh.

	£	s.	d.
To the Rector of Foulness	41	9	4
To the Vicar of Shopland	4	0	6
To Robert Firmin, Impropritate			
Rector of part of Shopland ...	215	0	0
To the Rector of Sutton	14	11	2
To the Rector of Little Stambridge	1	0	0
To the Rector of Rochford	30	16	8
	<hr/>		
	£306	17	8

With the exception of the sum apportioned to the Shopland impropriator, the above amounts were formerly fixed moduses, but are now subject to the fluctuations of the tithe table. The vicar of Shopland receives the above tithe thus:—From Little Shelford £2; from the two portions of Little Burweed 6s. 9d. each; from Great Burwood 13s. 6d., and from Small Gains 13s. 6d. The rector of Sutton receives from Old-hall 13s. 4d; from New Rugwood, or Little Brick House, £1 3s. 4d; from Rugwood £12, and from Foxes 14s. 6d. The rector of Little Stambridge receives from White House £1; and the rector of Rochford from Nasewick £8; from Monkenbarns £6; from Priestwood £11; from Small Ports £5 10s., and Sooty Hall 6s. 8d.

The church spoken of by Morant, which preceded the present structure, stood between the latter and the public road. It was no doubt erected after the Reformation, as it contained no vestiges of those

accessories to the pre-reformation ritual, which are usually met with. It was of wood, boarded inside and out. The uprights (between the boarding), that supported the roof, were dovetailed to prevent draughts. It had a spire, and in the vestry beneath was a fire place, the smoke from which found an exit through the steeple. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. Thomas the Martyr, and all Saints, and was of one pace, forty-seven feet long, and twenty broad. The site can be accurately determined, as the monuments of its rectors, Thompson, Ellwood, and Archer, which were within its walls, still remain.

The present edifice was erected in 1850, on a foundation of concrete. The architect was William Hambley, of London; the cost was £2000, towards which George Finch, Esq., gave £400, the parishioners £800, two Church Building Societies £295, and the Trinity House £50 towards the spire; the rest was raised by private subscriptions. It was consecrated July 3rd, 1853, by Dr. Murray, late Bishop of Rochester. There are twelve acres, two roods, and sixteen poles of vicarial glebe, which includes the house and garden. The present Parsonage House was built in 1846, at the expense of the patron, George Finch. His farms are let tithe free, and the rector's emoluments are made up by him to about £300 per annum. In 1814, Ellwood inserted a minute in the old overseers' book, that the living of Fowlness was exempted from tenths in Queen Anne's time; that it then stood in the bishops' books at £170, but at the time he was writing, it was under £100. Newcourt, in winding up his account of this parish, says, "That Robert, the son of Godebold, upon founding the Priory of Horkesley, in this county, as a cell to the Abby of Thetford, in Norfolk, gave to that the tythes of his marsh in Fuleness, which was confirmed to them by Gilbert, Bishop of London, and afterwards by Robert, son of Philip, one of his descendants."

It would be tedious to give the names of all the chantry priests, or even rectors of this island; amongst the former was Thomas Jan (presented by the Dutchess of Exeter in 1472), afterwards Archdeacon of Essex. John Kemp,* presented by the Marquis of Dorset, in 1480, resigned the following year, and was succeeded by Thomas Thornton, formerly vicar of Aldham, who exchanged with William Evys, rector of North Bemflete, in 1482. Richard Mortymer, late rector of Hawkewell, died in possession in 1509. William Haspynghaugh, or Aspenall, alias Aspinagh, or Haspynghaw (formerly vicar of Hatfield-Peverell) had the chaplaincy in 1530, upon the presentation of Sir Thomas Bullen, Earl of Wiltshire and Ormond, and died in 1547. He was one of the custodians of the Lepers Hospital, in "Little Maldon," dedicated to St. Giles, which was founded before the sixteenth of Edward II., and it was during his administration, that license was obtained from Edward the IV., to transfer the patronage of that institution to the abbot and Convent of Bileigh. Thomas Paxton succeeded him in the chaplaincy of Foulness, upon the presentation of Sir William Stafford. He witnessed the dissolution of chantries, and was deprived in 1554. By the grant of Sir William, *pro hac vice*, John Crymble, yeoman, presented the first rector, John Flexman (who was afterwards vicar of Eastwood.) This institution was cancelled in the same year, and Thomas West admitted at the presentation of the said Crymble. Soon after, the right of patronage was in Richard Lord Rich, who presented John Staworth in 1560, who had been vicar of Wakering-magna. William Gould was presented in 1586, by Queen Elizabeth, *per Laps*. A few years preceding the Commonwealth was a troublous time, for in the State Paper Office there is a book of the notes of the Court of High Commission (Dom. Ser. ch. i, 261), from which it appears

* Kemp vacated the living of Little Wakering to obtain this preferment.

that Abraham Crouch, a layman of Foulness, was bound in bail to appear before the Commissioners 15th October, 1635, and on the 20th following a day was assigned for his appearance, but there is no further entry of the proceedings. Roboshobery Dove, rector in 1664, was summoned before the committee sitting at Maldon, for the purpose of hearing complaints against the then existing ministry. Depositions were taken against him upon 17th April, 1644, before Sir Richard Everard, Sir W. Masham, Carew H. Mildmay, and others. The charges were drunkenness, and conformity and affection to the King's cause. Dove escaped for this time, as he had not given up possession in 1645, but he was at length deprived. In 1650 a Mr. Goodwin was appointed, who was approved by the parishioners. Richard Goddiffe, afterwards rector, conformed at the Restoration. Jacob Ramsey, rector in 1676, vacated this living for that of South Shoebury in 1679. Thomas Lambe succeeded him, who vacating the benefice in 1697, it was bestowed upon James Kennedy. We find George Dell in 1705, William Albright in 1714, Benjamin Collins in 1716, John Pennington in 1727, Thomas Dent in 1733, John Bugg in 1742, Maurice Gleyre in 1751, Robert Watson in 1753-4, and Thomas Thompson, B.A., in 1757. His wife, Penelope, was buried February 6th, 1769, and Thompson himself in July, 1771. The inscription upon his monument, which was upon the floor of the old church, is now unreadable. Upon his demise, the Rev. Thomas Ellwood officiated as curate for forty-one years, and became rector in 1813. He was buried in the chancel of the old church, and his monument states that he died February 18th, 1815, aged 74 years. His dress consisted of low shoes with buckles, velvet breeches with silver buckles to the knees, welch wig, in which he slept, straight collared frock coat, with a turned up hat, and rosette in front, and his staff, still preserved, was five feet long. In his will he bequeathed £100 upon

trust, that the half-yearly interest thereof should be for ever distributed on Good Friday and the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, by the minister and churchwarden, among indigent persons belonging to this parish, who received no parochial relief. After being placed in various stocks, this fund now consists of £105 new three and a half per cent annuities, and is transferred from one rector to another, the churchwarden's name being altered at the same time. Upon Ellwood's decease, the Rev. Thomas Archer, who had been curate of Prittlewell, Southchurch, Great Wakering, &c., obtained the appointment. He was buried in the chancel of the old church, and his monument tells us that it is "Sacred to the memory of Rev. Thomas Archer, rector of this parish, who departed this life the 17th of February, 1832, aged 82 years. A friend to the poor." His relict, Susannah, retired to Rochford, where she died 21st February, 1847, aged 85 years. Her tomb, which is near the north wall of Rochford churchyard, is in a very dilapidated state, having been broken by the fall of a branch from an adjoining tree. Archer had several sons and daughters. Benjamin Maurice was drowned in one of the marsh ditches, near Foulness Hall. Susan married Gardner, bailiff in Havengore, and is buried near her mother at Rochford. An inscription in Prittlewell churchyard tells us, that "Catherine Pearce died in 1825, aged 27 years, wife of Samuel Pearce, a tradesman in London, and daughter of the Rev. Thomas Archer, formerly curate of this parish, and of Susanna his wife; also Edward Archer, who died in 1796, son of the Rev. Thomas Archer." His reverence was one of the old school, and probably adapted to the region in which he was placed. His dress was singular, consisting of blue frock coat, white corduroys, and grey worsted stockings, without gaiters. At home in the old Vicarage, which was destitute of bells, his custom was to summon his wife, whom he called "Pug," from

her domestic duties, by knocking the hearth-brush against the wainscot. He was fond of the weed, and, when curate of Prittlewell, generally smoked his clay to church, leaving it outside (with due reverence) in the niche by the vestry door. He was a great hunter, and could jump a five-bar gate capitally; he used to ride across country to church, and upon one occasion, after a funeral, with hunting cap on, was thrown whilst jumping a stile then at Southchurch churchyard, and broke a rib. A brother clergyman once crossed the sands to do duty for him, as his church had been shut up for eighteen weeks, in consequence of his having hurt his leg. After swimming his horse through the "swins," to get to Mr. Archer's residence, he found him attired in an old red night-cap, smoking his pipe, and resting his limb on the kneading trough. He was, notwithstanding his eccentricities, an excellent scholar and eloquent man. Upon one occasion, having to preach at Great Wakering, he lost his sermon, which was in his hat, on the sands, but nothing daunted, he mounted the rostrum, and delivered a first-rate extempore address. He was a poet of no mean order, frequently publishing pieces in the county paper, sometimes under the name of Calliope; one was in praise of his patron the Earl, and another was dedicated as a tribute to John Harriott, of Broomhills, upon his retirement from the Rochford Bench in 1793. He likewise published some tributary verses to the memory of Asser Vassal, upon his death in 1808. A story is told of him that after reading the burial service over a near relative at Prittlewell, he addressed the bystanders and clerk, apostrophizing the deceased, thus, "Good bye, God bless you, you were a good wife, farewell; thank God, Who has enabled me to do this. I daresay there will be observations made, but by not employing a brother clergyman, I have saved the fees, and a hat-band." He was succeeded in his rectorship by the

Rev. James Knight, a native of Lambeth, who was ordained deacon in 1808 by the Bishop of Sodor and Man, (W. E. Claudius) and priest by the same bishop in 1810. In his early days he was a Calvinist, one of the followers of Mr. Whitfield, chaplain to the Countess of Huntingdon. He was, at first, curate at the parish of Charles, Plymouth, and afterwards curate and reader of St. Clement Danes, (William Gurney, rector) in the Strand. He died November 11th, 1844, unmarried, without a relative, and was buried in the old church. The slab states he was 71 years old at his death, and underneath are the words, "I know that my Redeemer liveth." The Rev. Harvey Vachell was next appointed to the living. He set about reforming the manners and morals of the inhabitants, who were exceedingly rough and ignorant; he broke up, as it were, the fallow ground, and laid the foundation for much good, and endeavoured to do his Master's work in this cure. He was formerly in the army, and married Eleanor, daughter of Dr. Pemberton. Having resigned the Foulness Rectory at Michaelmas, 1847, he was appointed chaplain at the Queen's Bench, and had the charge of a district of St. George's, Southwark, without a church. He was afterwards rector of St. John's, Horsleydown, and is now rector of Millbrook, Bedfordshire. Upon his resignation, the living was accepted by the Rev. Samuel Neale Dalton, M.A., a man of primitive and retiring manners, and content with his lot in this lonely spot. He was inducted in 1848, and, like his predecessor, has employed his time in carrying on the good work commenced so auspiciously. Commiserating the destitute religious state of the neighbouring islands, he even extended his philanthropy to them, but in this he was arrested, apparently by the jealousy engendered by intrusion upon the domains of other shepherds. In his efforts for every good and laudable undertaking in his own

parish, he has been ably seconded and has a worthy coadjutor in his churchwarden, Charles Clay Harvey,* to whom Foulness owes much for example and precept. There is now an excellent school, erected in 1846, towards the building of which Mr. Finch and the other proprietors assisted. The excellent system of house to house visitation is practised, and the Bible is considered a necessary in every house. Mr. Dalton is of Caius College, Cambridge, and his wife is Sophia, daughter of William Way, M.R.C.S., of Tunbridge Wells.

The registers, which commence in 1695, contain several entries respecting the Lodwick family, (or, as they are termed in the Barling register, Lodowick,) amongst others that of "John Lodwick, who was buried May 11th, 1700." Reference is likewise made to "Jacob Lodwick, and Mary, his wife." He was contemporary with John and Peter, and they are supposed to have been brothers. The descent from John and Peter has already been recorded, and with respect to Jacob, his eldest son, Anthony, was buried at South Shoebury, in 1732, and the second, Jacob, died in Foulness, and was buried there, being an infant, in 1702-3. This branch is extinct. "Robert Dod, curate in 1754."

The most ancient inscription in the churchyard is that to "Jonas Allen, who departed this life the 27th day of April, Anno Domini 1698." These "Allins, or Allens," possessed property in the island from 1681 to 1743. The Dove House, (now the St. George and Dragon public-house,) and another, called the White Lyon, afterwards the Anchor, and then Clod Hall, (formerly in the Corby family) were owned by them. There is likewise a horizontal stone (upon the site of

* Charles Clay Harvey, of the Quay Farm, is son of the late Charles Harvey, of Nase Wick, and formerly of Maldon Hall, and Elizabeth Clay, his wife, of the Caidge, Southminster. Her grandmother was a Mazengarb, of Copt Hall, Lt. Wigborough, where the family settled when they fled from the Low Countries, during the Spanish persecution.

the old church) to the memory of "Mr. John Parratt, late of this parish, who departed this life the 19th day of February, 1754, aged 78 years." Also to "Mrs. Hannah Parratt, his wife, who died 20th day of December, 1754, aged 65 years. In the churchyard is a stone to "Francis Brawn, who died 2nd of June, 1754, aged 51 years." "To Mary Allen, who died March 9th, 1774, aged 72 years." She was the last of that ancient family who had property in the island. "To Mrs. Mary Thornburrow, who departed this life November 29th, 1760, aged 64 years." "To Jonathan Crozier, who died January 5th, 1778, aged 80 years; also to Elizabeth Crozier, his wife, who died 22nd of May, 1762, aged 59 years." This Crozier, besides property of his own abutting on the Roach river, near Small Gains, farmed West Shelford. His daughter married Thomas Dowsett. "To William Potton, who died March 31st, 1803, aged 89 years; also Hannah Potton, wife of William Potton, who died 21st April, 1763, aged 48 years. To William Potton, who died 1st February, 1826, aged 80 years. To Sarah, his wife, who died in 1773, aged 32 years, and Mary, his second wife, who died in 1807, aged 47 years. To Samuel Potton, who died May 12th, 1862, aged 81 years." "To Bennet Forster, who died 26th of March, 1830, aged 49 years. To Bennet Forster, his only son, who died January 10th, 1840, at the early age of 25 years." He married Charlotte, daughter of the late Stephen Allen. "Also Charlotte, his eldest child, who died in 1839, aged 2 years.

"Adieu, sweet flower, nipt in the bud,
Thou grief nor sorrow knew,
Came but to win thy parents' love,
And then to heaven withdrew."

"To Harriett Gardner, who died in 1852, aged 29 years.

Here lies the soulless clod,
The sun eternal breaks,
The new immortal wakes,
Wakes with her God."

"To Stephen Mears, who died in 1782, aged 35 years." "To Peggy, wife of Miles Alborough, the 5th March, 1814, aged 49 years." "To Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Charles Harvey, August 13th, 1854, aged 63 years. To Elizabeth J. Harvey, August 28th, 1854. To Frederick Harvey, who died the same day." "To Gilbert Hitchens, in 1778, aged 53 years." "To Richard Archer, in 1738, aged 63." "To John Thornton, 11th January, 1860, aged 54 years; also Harriett, wife of William Hoare, and daughter of John Thornton, in 1860, aged 22 years." Thornton occupied the premises, now belonging to Mr. Webb, near Rugwood. "To Thomas Murland, who died in 1806, aged 85 years." He occupied a tenement situate near the rectory, which is said to be the oldest house in the island. "To Ambrose Corby, who died in 1770, aged 74. To Ambrose Corby, in 1810, aged 55." These Corbys belong to a very old family of fishermen, and were connected with copyhold property, fishing rights, and horse grasses, for generations. "To Jonathan Ballanger, who died in 1841, aged 57." "To Phæbe, wife of James Threadgold, in 1840, aged 45; and of James Threadgold, her husband, in 1866, aged 70 years." "To Samuel Patmore, in 1829, aged 51 years; and Mary, his wife, in 1835, aged 56." "To Jane Bennewith, in 1780, aged 38." "To Thomas Wiggins in 1814." "To John Guiver, in 1855," "To James White, in 1837, aged 42; to Mary Ann, his wife, in the same year; also eight of their children, who died in their infancy.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 Bears all its sons away,
 They fly, forgotten as a dream,
 Dies at the opening day,"

With regard to the manners and customs of this island in times past, they were of the most primitive description. Previous to the annual fair, which was held opposite the King's Head, at Court's End, on the 10th July, but which has been discontinued for some

years, the rustic damsels might be seen in the gardens, arranging their toilets in the open air, preparing for the pleasures of Terpsichore.

When coals were dear,* wood not to be had, and manure† considered a nuisance, bean straw was burnt largely in the farm houses, (the ashes being the lookers' privilege) and toasting, in consequence of the smoke, was carried on upon the point of a hay fork.

One mode adopted by the farmers, upon going out of the island in the winter months, was to have one tumbrel with three horses to convey the family, and another the chaise, over the headway and black grounds to the sands. Before the recent laws respecting Sunday tippling, numbers of the peasantry used to resort to Great Wakering on that day, and the scenes there were most offensive to decency. A considerable portion of these men were runaways from justice ; nearly all of them had nicknames, and at one period it was a work of difficulty to apprehend them ; but nowadays, thanks partly to the supervision of police, an improved tone of morals, the spread of education, a greater care for their souls by their minister, and the spread of religious principles, Foulness is not behind the parishes on the mainland in morality. Crime is now more rarely heard of, and a resident policeman is considered unnecessary. Pugilistic encounters were at one time the rage, and Turtle's wall, the highway from Rugwood to the church, was so named a century ago, in consequence of a fight in which one of the combatants was killed. The churchyard was a favourite place for this pastime, as at that time no fence existed between it and the grounds of the public-house. A gentleman who was formerly tenant of Burweed, used to relate that upon

* Coals are now 45 per cent. lower than they were in the middle of the last century.

† Manure was frequently brought out of the island, as a great portion of the land, especially the new enclosures, was so rich, that it required but little stimulant.

one occasion, visiting his farm at harvest time, and proceeding to his company of twelve men, some one incidentally exclaimed, "the constable is coming," when one said, "I must be off," "So must I," said another, and at last only two remained who were unconscious of being wanted. Not one of these men was known by his proper name. As to saving money, this was out of the question, as all the single men on a farm slept in large rooms, with numerous beds, and tales are told that those who did not choose to clear out at public-houses, but retired to rest, had their hose shaken by the legs, and any money scattered by the process caused a general scramble.

From continually coming in contact with this rough population, it may be readily surmised that the class above them had not that artificial gloss consequent upon continual intercourse with better society. Personal adornment was disregarded, and beards of a week or fortnight's growth were the order of the day. The bailiffs were generally men who could overawe the labourers by physical strength, and winked, to some extent, at their habits. The few resident farmers, like others of that class, were most hospitable entertainers, in a place where water was scarce, and the best hollands obtained for the loan of the horses. A celebrated manufacturer of Ipswich, who visited the island about forty-five years ago, respecting an extensive order for ploughs, used to relate with considerable gusto the following account of a day spent in this place. Having crossed by ferry from Burnham, he met his host in the marshes, mounted on a rough hack, and was welcomed most cordially with homely greeting, old-fashioned oaths, and an expression of fear lest he might be hungry. He was directed a near cut to the house, whilst his entertainer rode round, being assured the dame would soon replenish him. The family consisted of several sons and daughters, and in due time dinner was served,

which consisted of chickens, whilst around the table ranged some half-dozen hungry dogs, of various sizes and breeds. Forks were very little used, the drumsticks of the fowls being held by the fingers, whilst the knife separated the meat, the bones were then drawn rapidly through the mouth, and afterwards thrown at, rather than to, the dogs, who received them with a sharp snap, followed by a scrunch, and the whole disappeared. In the meantime the narrator's attention was rivetted upon the young ladies, who, having just returned from boarding school with considerable polish, appeared to his excited imagination like geraniums vegetating in uncongenial soil. The fowls having been disposed of, the host enquired whether his guest was not thirsty, at the same time giving a hint to one of the company to fetch somewhat from the cellar; this cellar was a hole in the haulm wall, which formed a receptacle for liquor. Altogether this was a day ever to be remembered.

Amongst the celebrated characters of Foulness was John Bennewith, (called the Foulness champion) a man of great muscular development, who kept the roughs of the island in wholesome discipline. He sustained, according to the notions of that day, the reputation and manhood of his birthplace, in repeated pugilistic encounters. He reigned undisputed master upon skittle grounds, at quoits, and at the annual fair, where he commenced his first exploit in 1810. Although requested, he would never enter the boxing schools, and consequently was devoid of science; he could defend his chest, but exposed his head, consequently the efforts of his adversaries were always directed to blind him. Amongst his neighbours who acknowledged his prowess were the Infant,* the Giant, Bullock's Bones, and others of herculean proportions, who entertained a wholesome dread of, and respect for him. Several of these he disposed of with one hand,

* A notion may be formed of this man's strength, when he has been known to smash the stave of a water-butt with his fist.

including Rippengale, a marsh waller; this fight took place in Burchell's meadow, near Wakering. He fought likewise, and defeated, Philip Moss, in Hadleigh House meadow, and subsequently Minter, a bargeman, at the same place. He fought, also, Great Kent, and at Sheerness, one Keith, a dockyard man, and then went to Suffolk, and tried his skill with the best man in Woodbridge in 1811. But the battle that he is best remembered for, is his celebrated encounter with Joshua Hudson, at Rettendon, (*circa* 1816.) He was backed by two of the most considerable farmers in the island, and upon reaching Pigg's Bay, in South Shoebury, was brought to the ground in a post-chaise, accompanied by Golden Prentice, who subsequently emigrated to Adelaide. About 2000 spectators were present, including nearly all Foulness. His pride upon this occasion was doomed to disappointment; although generous to his opponents, often giving them another chance if not coming to time, he met no mercy here. The first round concluded with Hudson's going down, and whilst seated upon his second's knee, he is said to have given his supporters a signal that he could beat, thus encouraging them to bet freely. In the next round Jack received a tremendous blow under the chin, which fairly lifted him from the ground, where he laid insensible; when time was called, Jack was still unconscious, but at last started up, exclaiming, "Where is he? where is he?" Hudson dismissed him with the remark that he was a cock only fit to crow on his own dunghill. His next adventure was with Garrod, the Suffolk champion, at Cricksea. He was nearly killed, having been knocked down seventeen times, and his head was frightfully swollen. In his fight with Leggatt, a plasterer from London, (a professional) then employed upon the repairs at Southminster church, he proved victorious. His brother Thomas, called "Howgego," acted as second, and his wife as bottle-holder.

John, at this period, was 29, and his opponent 44. He hopped into the ring, shook hands, and commenced singing a ballad, composed for the occasion, commencing with—

“If your name is Leggatt, that bold fighting man,
Why I’m the cove your hide will tan,
Or on the spot will die.”

Having been struck to the ground several times in succession, he was roused to fury by the reproaches and imprecations of his wife, and gave his opponent a settler, which fractured his ribs. Jack then bent his steps to the King’s Head, at Southminster, where he danced a hornpipe in his happiest style. He was one of the best dancers of his class, being a very active man. We must now pass over an unfortunate period in our hero’s life ; having fallen amongst bad company, and adopted lawless habits, he left the island for a time, but returning, became an altered man, and was frequently found on his knees in his parish church, and, let us trust, found that peace, which the world is unconscious of. This family had a curious custom, which was to have their coffins unscrewed immediately after the clergyman had completed the burial service.

Another well-known character was old Mrs. Cater, who, in consequence of the non-residence of a medical man,* was frequently called in to act in cases of midwifery, and her fee, as appears from the parish books in 1830, was 5s. for each case. When sent for in haste, before the foot-paths were made, she used to mount on horseback behind the messenger. Her usual dress was a red cloak, coal-scuttle bonnet, close cap, and she wore no stays. She died in her eightieth year, and was the mother of 19 children. At the time of her decease there were six sons and four daughters living. The eldest was in her sixtieth year, and the youngest in his thirty-sixth. There were 49 grandchildren, and 23 great grandchildren, numbering in all 82. Thirty-

* In answer to a question, “How do you get on without a doctor?” The reply was, “Oh, we die of ourselves.”

two of her descendants followed her to the grave, the fourth generation being amongst the number. She lived in a house called the Dove Cote forty years, and then removed to Smoky Hall, and lived there thirty-eight more. An anecdote is told of her, which shows her ready wit. Upon her tenth child being brought to the font for baptism, the minister (Ellwood*) said as usual, "Name this child," upon which Mrs. Cater replied, she could not presume to do such a thing, as the child was his. "Mine," said Ellwood. "Yes, your reverence," retorted Mrs. Cater, "for he is your tithe, and you must name him." Upon this the parson named him Thomas, after himself.

It is extremely perilous for any stranger to attempt the passage to or from this island without a guide, but the dangers attending it have been a pleasurable excitement to many. Some farmers would stay to the last, and then race the tide, and swim the creeks. Some of those who have been used to the sands all their lives, have there yielded up their breath, and many hair-breadth escapes are recorded. The present Charles Miller, late surgeon at Great Wakering, who, during his professional duties, occasionally lost his way, formerly possessed an old horse, which upon such an emergency, when the reins were thrown up, her instinct never failed her. Fogs† are liable to come on, the tide out of course, and other accidents occur, so that the most experienced may lose their way. Those on foot who attempt the passage through the creeks, should be cautious, as dangerous holes exist; one called Shagsby's (from a man lost there) is on the edge of the saltings at Great Shelford.

* Ellwood was some time curate to Rev. Daniel Holloway, rector of Foulness, whose widow married the Rev. Miles Moor, rector of Sutton.

† The writer was once lost in a fog whilst wild fowl shooting on the sands, and, but for timely assistance, must have lost his life. These fogs at a little distance appear to be a bank, and upon turning round you lose all idea of north, south, east, or west. As a hint to future sportsmen, the author entertained the idea of tying his arm to the muzzle of his gun, (burying the latter in the sand) to simplify the search for his body.

Amongst those who have been drowned upon these occasions was Thomas Jackson,* an apothecary, in the year 1711, who was buried at Rochford. Thomas Miller, surgeon, of Great Wakering, son of Morton Miller, of the same place, was likewise lost coming from Foulness, August 21st, 1805, aged 45. He was on horseback, and was discovered swimming in the haven by some men in a barge, who conducted him to Land Wick blackgrounds, and it is supposed his horse afterwards threw and kicked him, as a mark of the shoe appeared on his temple. One of the most distressing events of this nature occurred in 1836, when two poor girls named Chittocks and Bates were found dead, not drowned, but exhausted from cold, wet, and fright. Although entreated to stay at Wakering, they refused, as they expected to meet their sweethearts on the opposite side. The night was a frightful one, incessant rain, with frequent flashes of forked lightning. Nearly all Foulness attended their funeral. In 1857, William Harvey, a shepherd, was drowned, in consequence, it is thought, of having been led astray by the Horns light. Another of these victims was Gardner, of Havengore, Mr. Archer's son in law. He was extremely deaf, and being set down from a cart near his own head-way, wandered from the track. His cries were heard from the shore, but on account of his infirmity he did not hear his would-be deliverers. It would have been dangerous to leave the land in total darkness, and the shrieks of lost persons have been imitated. One of the most recent casualties was that of an unfortunate Irish policeman, who, from a sense of duty, having a paper to deliver, remained too long in the island, and though warned, would attempt the passage, and was overtaken and lost his life, by the raging water at the first creek.

* For a curious inscription to Stephen Jackson, of Great Doggetts, who died in 1706, see Rochford.

Arthur Young,* who issued his last work in 1807, on the Agriculture of Essex, is inclined to think in this island is to be found some of the richest soil in the county. He describes the fertility as so great, that the farmers seldom applied any manure for any sort of corn, and such was the lukewarmness in that respect, that there was scarcely an enclosure for the cattle, which used to wander at pleasure, and no anxiety was felt on the subject. These remarks, however apposite to that period, do not convey an exact impression of things at this time, inasmuch as a great deal of the soil was, or had been, under grass, where colts were raised, and the new enclosures were most productive, after the salts had evaporated. The land on the eastern side, and around the church towards Eastwick, is the richest; the soil across the centre, good, but heavier, whilst the poorest is the land bordering on New England creek, Potton Island, and the River Roach. A large tract of saltings was enclosed in 1801 on the Earl of Winchilsea's estate, *viz.* 330 acres by John Knapping, of South Shoebury, and Francis Bannester,† of Little Wakering, at a cost of between £1600 and £1700. They had it rent free for 21 years, but by a wise provision were precluded from ploughing it.§ Since this period the drill has superseded the broad cast system, and the throwing of corn against the wind with shovels, has been supplanted by machines, which subtract, to a great

* Arthur Young was born in 1741, and died in 1820, is buried at Bradfield Combust, in Suffolk, where his father was 40 years Rector, and where former generations of his race lived and died. His son, a clergyman, was employed in Russia in surveying, and died there. A relative now resides at the Hall, (his own property,) in the above parish.

† Francis Bannester lived in the Rectorial Glebe House, at Little Wakering, which house stood close to the church wall. The house, barns, &c., are now swept away; the orchard and garden demolished, and the ponds filled up.

§ This was the rock upon which Harriott was shipwrecked, when he enclosed Rushley. He ploughed and sowed at once, and the result was, his crops were stunted, whereby he was nearly beggared. The salts evaporate more quickly, when left to nature.

extent, all filth, weed seeds, &c., from our great staple commodity. The good qualities arising from the texture of the soil are, that with a short length of straw,* which seldom lodges, the yield is productive and remunerating. From 3 bushels of wheat seed per acre, the quantity has been reduced one third or more, whilst the average produce per acre has increased, but it is doubtful, at the present day, whether the crop on the average exceeds the uplands, which it was formerly said to do. In 1784 the practice was to sow beans after fallow, followed by wheat, beans, wheat, and sometimes oats, and an old custom prevailed at a later period of sowing clover seed after mustard, but this practice arose from compulsory clauses, in the leases, and was not derived from the experience of the cultivators, only one farmer now continuing the latter custom. Coleseed and woad† (*Isatis Tinctoria*) were likewise occasionally grown.

The soil is not adapted for feeding sheep in winter, so that no turnips are grown, but whole summer fallows are made, generally followed by mustard. Considerable sums have been made at various times by growing brown mustard, (now no longer permitted), and about 25 years ago, one fortunate speculator sold about 300 quarters, (100 quarters on three successive Mondays) at £1 per bushel, but £2 2s. has occasionally been made.

The rateable value, at the beginning of the century, was from "10 to 18s. per acre on the Earl's estate, and the rent 23s. 6d., the tenant doing all repairs without allowance," which remark, I apprehend, is applicable to labor. These rents have increased con-

* One of the most useful varieties of wheat, which is likely to survive many others, is a thick-set rough chaff, for the raising of which the public are indebted to Edward Fulford, of Fan Hall, in North Bemfleet.

† Woad was extensively grown on the uplands at one period, but its uses for dyeing purposes, are now superseded. The dye was probably used for the dresses of the Celtic nations, and it was used to colour the skins of the warriors stripped for battle.

siderably, and they range from 25s. to £2 on the whole island, calculated as tithe free.

Morant says (writing in 1768) this hundred suffered at times greatly from want of water, especially the islands, and most of us at the present day can recollect when all supply in Foulness had failed, from tubs, cisterns, shallow ponds, &c., that cattle in a dreadful state of thirst have been driven across sands to water at Shoebury Common, a distance of six miles, and long trains of butts with water were to be seen on the sands, conveying that luxury to the famishing herds. Water in times of scarcity was used for cooking purposes again and again. It was sometimes so bad that even boiling would not remove its nauseousness; it used to be locked up for protection, and smuggled hollands* offered to visitors. It was used for drink until it became loathsome from insects, &c., and after a shower, the cottagers might be seen dipping water out of the ruts and hollows of the roads. Young says, from the materials of which these islands are formed, it is obvious that they can contain no springs of water, but his penetrating eye could not realize the results that have been obtained, in consequence of the boring of Artesian wells, (some of them reaching the depth of 412 feet) the water from which in several instances flows on to the surface, and is one of the greatest blessings to this place. The first well of this kind was constructed in Rushley, by Francis Bannester, an account of which was published in Wright's History of Essex. Illness was excessively prevalent formerly. Young says that he asked thirty persons this question, whether they had agues, and they all answered in the affirmative; he says there were but four resident farmers in the island, owing to its unhealthiness, which he ascribes partly to the muddy coast, wet and dry every day by

* There were various receptacles for smuggled liquor, such as holes in haulm walls, and in an old house called Whisbey's, formerly standing near the wall, previous to the enclosures of 1801, the entrance to a depôt of this nature was under the hearth stone.

the tide, and to every field being fenced by a ditch half full of stinking mud, exposed to the sun, causing pestilential exhalations. There is no doubt he was partially correct as to the cause so far as regards the latter supposition. The discovery of fresh water, the deepening of the outfalls,* the reducing and filling up the fleets, the levelling of the old county walls, the better scouring, and even laying dry the ditches, have produced a marvellous change. Ague is now seldom heard of, the health of the inhabitants is probably better than those in the uplands, and the island is capable of being made one of the most salubrious spots in the county. No land-ditching was done in times of yore; now the advanced farmers drain with pipes, and one of them remarked that he should prefer the waste water of the whole of the island conveyed in underground channels, and if steam, which has planted its footsteps here, prevails, this is far from improbable. Instead of men of cadaverous aspect, people that have been nurtured in this air, have been remarkable for their sinew, strength, and health. At the cricket match in 1843, (when Daniel Robert Scratton drove across sands four in hand) the seven sons of Stephen Allen took part. They, or nearly all of them, were bred and born here, and few families could be produced with more vigorous frames and muscular development, and the approving shouts of the father of "well done, boys," betrayed his paternal pride, as his sons progressed in the game. A wager of £50 had been offered about this time from some one at, or about Terling, who had

* Owing to the deepening of the outfalls, and the consequent lowering of some of the ditches, the sides of the latter are apt to slip, owing to the subsoil, which consists of sand. A method has been discovered by an old workman, which he calls putting "a gore" in, which prevents the slipping. The method he pursues is to cut the sides down perpendicularly, about a yard wide at bottom; he then throws out the sand, and replaces it with the adhesive top soil, which has the desired effect. So accurate is his eye, that in drawing out he will not vary in 20 rods, the eighth of an inch, however unequal the ground on the surface.

Young alludes to the Flemish scythe for cutting beans; it is called a peck. This crop was generally sown by hand under the furrow.

likewise seven sons, offering to back them to plough against any seven sons in the county. This was accepted by Allen, but on condition that shooting, cricketing, swimming, and some have added fighting, should be part of the conditions, but these terms were refused.

Young speaks of the descendants of the Dutchmen, of whom he states there exists a tradition that they were the first embankers and cultivators of Foulness. This is an error, as already shown, but the truth is, they strengthened the embankments, enlarged and added to the security of the district. He gives as Dutch names Lodick,* Peroose, Mowbecker,† and Crozier. The latter died 80 years old. His daughter, Mrs. Dowsett, told Young that her father's grandfather and grandmother came from Holland. There is likewise a tradition that Lodovic, a Fleming, whose name is frequently met with in the history of the Low Countries, crossed the North Sea in the same boat with his countrymen, Mazengarb, Peroose, Mowbecker, Crozier, and Vandevode,§ and sought refuge in Foulness and Canvey from the persecutions of the infamous Duke of Alva. In the overseers' book in 1699 are to be found the names of Crozier, Alin, Moorbeck, and Lodwick, and we may detect several Dutch names amongst those sworn on the homage of a court leet held in 1632. They were Nicholas and Richard Justice, John Damion, Nicholas, John, and Peter Cripps, Charles Wethers, Abraham Crouch, Elias Carnell, Robert Adson, Thomas Baion, and Robert Damion.

* Monuments of the Lodwicks are to be found at Barling, Shopland, Great Wakering, South Shoebury, and Canewdon. General Lodwick uses the arms of Lodowick or Lodwick, a Devonshire family. The blazonry is "Gu. a chev., between three cocks Arg., Crest, a cock ppr."

† Tradition speaks of the Miss Moorebecks sitting in the church porch, with their petticoats lined with gold fringe, and being the admiration of the rustics. There are other names likewise of Dutch origin, as Giles Bell, Polley, Vandersee, Clement, &c. There was a Christopher Belle, parish clerke of Foulness in 1551-2.

§ See South Bemfleet. A branch still exists in Holland.

One drawback to farming in Foulness is the scarcity of labour, and consequently its dearness. This falls upon the master, as the lookers enjoy the privilege of retailing goods to the men, which they do at higher rates than if regular shops were established. Some farmers have been known to pursue this plan themselves, a sort of truck system prevailing, and pork and old sows of sixty stone and upwards have been purchased for the labourers. The latter, like their brethren on the mainland, are now more fastidious as to their diet. The dearness of labour is increased by the improvident habits of many, the employers not having sufficient control over them so as to prevent their spending considerable time in drinking, frequently in hay and other busy seasons.

The roads are likewise in a state of nature, and there is a doubt whether those connected with the land could agree upon any project embracing so desirable an issue as any improvement. Some tenants might see looming in the distance, an increase of rent, but this is a bugbear unworthy of the present century, as the benefits arising from good locomotion would be great. A commencement with two or three main roads throughout would be a great desideratum. Upon several farms the corn is floated down to the quays in boats. The feeling amongst the residents appears to be a desire to have roads constructed, and the indifference and apathy is with those farmers residing on the uplands. There is a great dearth likewise of cottages and married men, and shops are wanted.

To sum up, this island is susceptible of further improvement, and with a little judicious ornamentation in planting, would be rendered quite enjoyable. Timber trees, shrubs, and fruit trees, in the first instance, might be slow in growing, but once having mastered the winds, would thrive amazingly, which has been proved, as there are several fine elms in places, excellent fruit

trees at the Rectory, quickset hedges, and a magnificent pear tree at Court's End, in full vigour, which was called the old pear tree fifty years ago. There exists a tradition that this tree was planted in brick-work, but no trace of it has been discovered at a depth of three feet.

Lucky Corner, in this locality, has obtained a celebrity with the rustics, as being the haunt of the parochial ghost, a woman without a head.

HADLEIGH.

THE CASTLE—ESTATES—HEBER AND STRANGMAN—LOVIBOND'S CHARITY—THE CHURCH—CLERGY—MURRELL, THE CUNNINGMAN, &c.

HADLEY, or Hadleigh, contains altogether 2679 acres, including the Ray and water 368 acres, roads and wastes 45 acres, and church yard 1 acre and 25 poles. The soil is by no means first-rate, being principally a mixture of stones, clay, and sand, with few exceptions, and saturated with land springs. The subsoil, in some instances, being stiff clay, with veins of sand. The rateable value of which in 1862 was £2479. The population in 1835 was 365, and, in 1861, amounted to 451 including 9 in Canvey Island, and there were 100 houses in 1851.

This parish is not mentioned by name in Domesday, nor in the Red Book of the Exchequer, and was probably comprehended in Rayleigh, which then extended to the Ray or water of Hadleigh. This Ray is a tract of land subject to the overflow of the tide, and used for oyster and mussel beds, as well as for the taking of floating fish. The right of several fishery has been enjoyed from the time of Henry III., and earlier, though often disputed. In September, 1724, a "Kentish Armada" consisting of 100 smacks from Sheppy and the Kentish coast, invaded the Ray with flags flying and the fire of guns, and carried off some thousand bushels of oysters. The case was tried

before Lord Chief Baron Gilbert, at the spring assizes for 1724-5, held at Brentwood, and a verdict was found for the then plaintiff, with £2000 damages against the invaders.

In the year 1864, Bridges, one of the trustees for the Hilton* family, brought an action against the owner (Highton,) of Leigh Marsh, to prevent his enclosing some saltings in the Ray, the effect of which would shut out the flow of the tide, and materially injure the plaintiff's oyster and mussel grounds. An injunction was granted to restrain the defendant from enclosing the south side of the marsh, the portion complained of. An affidavit, sworn to by 72 fishermen of Leigh, that the fishery had always been free, put in as evidence for the defendant without his knowledge, was severely animadverted upon by the Vice-Chancellor, who styled it a most scandalous and shocking document.

Hadley, going along with Rayleigh, belonged to Suene at the general survey, and was forfeited by his grandson Henry de Essex. It was afterwards granted by Henry III. to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, who built the Castle, from which circumstance the parish acquired the name of Hadley ad Castrum. There was formerly a park connected with this castle, and a water mill. The site of the latter is still visible upon the low ground, by the side of a piece of water, now known as Mill Fleet. It appears probable at the time the castle was built the stream was navigable to the foot of the hill, and this seems confirmed by the fact, that in constructing the railway, at a depth of 12 feet, timbers were found, apparently belonging to sunken vessels, and quantities of rag stone within them.

* The late Mr. Hilton of Danbury, embanked a large quantity of saltings next Canvey Island, which involved him in a dispute with Lady Olivia Sparrow's trustees, respecting the disturbance of the fishery. To end the litigation he purchased the fishery, which extends from Leigh all round Canvey Island. At his death, Mr. Bridges, of Danbury, and others became trustees under his will.

The constructor of this castle, Hubert de Burgh, who had licence for so doing from Henry III. in 1231, was a man, who will be remembered as long as the English tongue exists, as the humane custodian of the unfortunate Prince Arthur, and immortalized by our great poet, Shakespeare, in his play of King John. He was warden in 1203 of the Castle of Falaise, in Normandy, where the royal youth was confined, and took upon himself to suspend the order for depriving him of sight, till John should be further consulted; but the probity of Hubert and his merciful appeal, were answered by an order for Arthur's removal, and his ultimate fate is variously detailed. We next hear of this great and good man being in charge of Dover Castle, which he successfully defended for King John, when it was besieged by Prince Louis, of France, and the rebellious barons. After that monarch's death, Louis, tempted the brave governor with the most magnificent offers, and when these failed, threatened to destroy Hubert's brother, but he was deaf to every overture, and his duty to the young Prince Henry was ever uppermost in his mind. Finding all his efforts ineffectual, Louis at length raised the siege.

De Burgh was next appointed to a command in the navy, and upon Bartholomew's Day, 1217, with 40 vessels defeated a French force of upwards of 80, who were attempting to make the estuary of the Thames. By gaining the weather gage, and tilting at them with the iron beaks of his galleys, he sunk some of them with all on board. He then grappled with others with hooks and chains, and ultimately took or destroyed all but fifteen. This battle was a decisive blow to the hopes of Louis, who aspired to the English throne. By a charter of Henry III. he had the custody of the castles of Dover, Rochester, and Canterbury for life, and was created Lord Chief Justice of Ireland for the same term, by patent bearing date 16th Henry III. and was appointed Justiciary of England

in 1227, and shared the chief authority with Peter des Roches, Bishop of Winchester, who was a foreigner by birth. His wife, Isabella,* late widow by the death of Geoffry Mandeville, Earl of Essex, and the divorced wife of King John, having lately died, he married a Scotch princess, who was one of the hostages at the Court in London, and attaining the supreme authority, upon the retirement of his rival, caused the surrender of most of the castles then held by foreigners, and made severe, though necessary examples of those who were in the habit of devastating the country.

At the parliament held in 1225, we find Hubert demanding a subsidy to enable the King to recover his own, and this was agreed to, upon condition that the King should ratify Magna Charta, and the Charter of forests. Henry now engaged in a French war, which ended in a failure, and he endeavoured to throw the blame, without any cause, upon Hubert. He had now been eight years in power, and, although popular with the people at large, was hated by many of the nobles for his zeal in recovering the castles and other possessions of the crown. His prince, who owed everything to him, was most ungrateful, and the possession of his riches was a temptation the monarch could not resist. The charges brought against him were frivolous in the extreme, but he was granted four months to prepare his defence. During this time the King granted him a safe conduct, and relying upon this, he departed to visit his wife at St. Edmunds, Bury. He was pursued and taken by Sir Godfrey de Cracomb at the head of 300 men, called the "black

* Hubert de Burgh had five wives. 1. Margaret, daughter of Robert de Arsike, by whom he had John and Hubert. 2. Joane, youngest daughter of William de Vermond, Earl of Devonshire, whom he married in 1199. 3. Beatrix de Warenn, widow of Dodo Bardolf: she died in 1209. 4. Isabell, daughter, and one of the heirs of William, Earl of Gloucester. 5. Margaret, daughter of William, and sister of Alexander II. King of Scotland. He was married to this last in 1221. She survived him, and died in 1260, without children. One of his daughters, marrying without the consent of Henry III., was divorced, owing to the match not suiting that king's political line of conduct.

band," at Brentwood, in the chapel of S. Thomas of Canterbury, where he stood by the altar with the crucifix in one hand, and the *Ciborium* in the other, claiming sanctuary, in 1232. Sending for a smith to make fetters for him, the poor man declared he would suffer death rather than forge shackles for the brave defender of Dover Castle, and the conqueror of the French at sea. He was, however, tied naked upon a horse and conveyed to the Tower. This being a violation of sanctuary, and an outcry being made by the Bishops, he was carried back to the holy edifice, (which was surrounded by a deep trench and palisades,) where he held out for 40 days, in spite of hunger, cold, and want of proper clothing. Being brought to trial, the King saved him from the scaffold, but he had to surrender all his ready money, and the estates he had acquired during the former and the present reign, and was reduced almost exclusively to his patrimonial possessions, and committed to "free prison" in the castle of Devizes. After a year he contrived to escape, and eventually recovered his honours and estates. He was even readmitted on the King's council, but he was wise enough never again to aspire to the post of prime minister, or favourite. He died at an advanced age in 1243.*

In 1268 the King committed the government of this castle to Richard de Thany or Tany. This family gave their name to the parish of Stapleford. In 1299, Edward I assigned to his queen Margaret, the castle, village, and park of Hadleigh, with appurtenances, then valued at £13 6s. 8d. per annum. Albrey de Vere, the 10th Earl of Oxford, who died in 1400, held it for life, of the gift of King Richard II. Edmund Plantagenet Duke of York, had the premises at his death in 1402, but only for life. In 1452, Henry VI. granted to his uterine brother, Edmund, Earl of Richmond, the castle,

* Hollinshed's Chronicle has much about Hubert de Burgh; likewise in "*De Antiquis Legibus Liber.*"

manor, the advowson of the church, fisheries, and a market on Wednesday in every week. This Edmund was eldest son of Owen Tudor, and Catherine, widow of Henry V., and by his marriage with the only daughter of John, Duke of Somerset, was father of Henry VII. These possessions then reverted to the crown, till Henry VIII. granted them in 1539 to the lady Anne of Cleves, (from whom he was divorced,) for her maintenance. She died at Chelsea, a convert from the doctrines of Luther, to those of the Roman Church, and was interred by Bishop Bonner and Abbot Feckenham, in Westminster Abbey. Her initials A.C. are upon the tomb. In 1551, Edward VI. gave the manor, park, and the farm called Hadleigh, with a separate fishery, and the advowson of the church to Richard Lord Riche,* and his heirs to hold by the fortieth part of a Knight's fee, and in 1553 he acquired from the same king other lands, in the tenure of Edward Strangman. From him they passed to his descendants, the Earls of Warwick. Upon the partition of their estates between the six coheirs, this fell to the share of Henry St. John, afterwards a Baronet, and Viscount St. John. His eldest son Henry, Viscount Bolingbroke, sold this estate to Sir Francis St. John, of Longthorp, in Northamptonshire, Bart., whose daughter and coheir, Mary, brought it in marriage to her husband, Sir John Bernard, of Brampton, in Huntingdonshire, Bart., Knight of the shire for the county of Huntingdon. From him it came

* In the terrier of the possessions of Sir Robert Riche, Knight, Lord Riche taken in the 19 Eliz. is "Hadley at Castle, the site of the manor there, with the demesne, lands, rents, and services, in the tenure of Bartholomew Strangman, is worth in the farm of the premises by the year £10 5s." It likewise mentions Russel's marsh, and Clarkenwick otherwise Abbott's marsh, in the same tenure. "The water mill of Hadley, in the tenure of John Phippe, is worth by the year 100s., and one moiety of the late park of Hadley, in the tenure of Jerome Phippe, worth £9 4s. 3d., and the other of equal value in the tenure of William Drywoode, and the fishery of the waters of Hadley Rey and Allysbury, otherwise called Tyllesbury Hope, in the occupation of the inhabitants of the town of Leigh, is worth in the farm of the same fishery by the year £10."

to General Robert Bernard Sparrow, who married in 1797 the Rt. Hon. Lady Olivia Acheson,* eldest daughter of Arthur, second Viscount, and first Earl of Gosford. She died 12th February, 1853, aged 88, and was buried at Brampton. The Castle, Park, and Temple Wood farms were then sold to Major Spitty,† of Billericay. The manor of Hadleigh ad Castrum (copyhold tenants, 19) was sold at the same time to Ernest William Wild. The court for this manor (the only one in the parish) is held at the Castle farm in the vicinity of the ruins.

The Park house was rebuilt in 1861, by Lady Olivia Sparrow.

The area within the walls of the castle comprises more than an acre. The structure is of Kentish ragstone, cemented with mortar of great hardness, with an admixture of sea shells, principally of cockle, probably brought from the shore of Canvey. At the north-east and south-east corners are two lofty circular towers much reduced in height. The walls at the base are nine feet thick. Beneath the south wall is a passage about two feet wide, and five feet eight inches in height, leading into a small room. During the recent excavations this was determined to be merely a *cloaca*, belonging to the pit of a garderobe or santoline, attached to a tower. This discovery has set at rest the various surmises connected with this passage, and the different theories have now evaporated. There are as many as eight of these *cloacæ* to be traced. Near the gateway tower was found a hearth, sixteen feet wide, by four feet deep, which is composed of tiles, placed edgewise, and embedded in concrete, and other arrangements showed this to have been connected with the kitchen of the building. Very few coins were found, but a pipe was discovered lead-

* Lady Olivia's only daughter and heir, married Viscount Mandeville, (afterwards Duke of Manchester,) in 1822 and died in 1848.

† See South Bemsfleet.

ing near the kitchen, which appears to have been used for conveying water for the supply of the castle from a spring or reservoir upon Plumtree Hill, distant nearly a furlong to the west. Just previous to these discoveries, the site of the park keeper's lodge was found beneath a grass plot near Hadleigh Park House. There is evidence that the castle, together with the mill and houses, were repaired in the reign of Edward III, the sums required being raised from the agistment of beasts in Hadleigh, Thundersley, and Rayleigh parks,* and sale of birch underwood in the latter. The castle is supposed to have been demolished about the middle of the 15th century, or after the decease of Edmund, of Hadham in 1456. The mill is mentioned as existing in 1627, in No. 3959, of the Harleian MSS.

Amongst the superstitious tales of the village in connection with these ancient ruins, one was related to the author by a venerable dame, to the effect that a tradition exists respecting a woman in white that formerly haunted the ruins, and that a milk maid (who never divulged her true name) living at the castle farm, met her in the early dawn within the castle precincts, and received a command to meet her there at 12 o'clock at night, and she would disclose mysteries connected therewith; this she could not summon courage sufficient to do, but was surprised next morning meeting the same lady, who bitterly upbraided her for neglecting her injunctions, and gave her a cuff on the ear, which almost dislocated her neck. She never recovered the blow, and in future was known by the sobriquet of "wry-neck Sall."

"Hadleigh Hall" formerly belonged to the Heber family, now extinct, and who have a vault in the churchyard on the southern side. The last of this family, Reginald Heber, who was blind many years before his death, died in 1793, aged 86, having been baptized

* The names of two of these park keepers are recorded in Morant, viz., Hugh le Parker, who held the office in 1284, and Roger de Estwyke in 1327.

here in 1709. His name is frequently found in the Register books as churchwarden, as early as 1739. His father was Francis Heber, a merchant of Mincing Lane, London, and who was interred here in 1719. This Francis married at Hadleigh in 1701, Margaret Oxley, likewise buried here February 6th, 1744. One of his daughters, Susannah, was the first wife of John Cook, M.D., of Leigh, and was buried here in 1728, and another, Ann, the wife of Dr. William Smith, Dean of Chester, in 1789, aged 78. He had other children besides these and Reginald, but as stated upon his tomb (which was repaired by John Going, A.D. 1793) "The family is now extinct." It is not always a testator is so fortunate as to have any one grateful enough to place any notice on a gravestone. It would be well for those desirous to be perpetuated, to make a special provision for that purpose in their last testament, as it frequently occurs, that upon the decease of the last of a family, or even upon failure of male heirs, and when estates are inherited by husbands of heiresses, no notice is recorded of the departed. Reginald* never disclosed from what part of England the family came, he never mentioned relations, but he left £100 a year for her life to his housekeeper, Mrs. Sarah Humphreys, and a handsome provision for her husband, who was farm bailiff.

In the registers of Hadleigh we find under date "1693, Mrs. Ann Heber buried. 1697, Thomas Heber buried. 1702, Thomas, the son of Francis and Margaret Heber, baptized January 12. 1704, Mary

* Some have supposed the family to be the same as that of the celebrated Bishop Reginald Heber, and a branch of the Hebers, of Marton Hall, Yorkshire, in which family the name of Reginald was common. The arms of the latter are somewhat identical with those of this parish, which are "Per fess a lion rampant."

In the register of Long Newton Parish, Co Durham is the following. "Reginald Heber, merchant, of London, and Mrs. Jane Vane, mar. 11 July, 1685," and in the register of Trinity the Less, London "Reginald, son of Reginald Heber, merchant, by Jane his wife, born 8th January, 1688-9, baptized 18th," and in all Saints Church, Ilkley, Yorkshire, is a brass, dated 1687 or 1687, to Reginald Heber, a young boy.

Heber baptized July 7th. 1706, Anne Heber, January 31st. 1707, Anne Heber buried. 1708, Mary Heber buried. 1709, February 14th, Reginald Heber baptized. 1715, Thomas, son of Francis Heber, baptized." Heber left this estate to John Going,* of Leigh, a corn and coal merchant, who died 17th January, 1806, aged 53 years. Some years after his death this estate was sold for 7000 guineas to Lady Charlotte Denys, wife of Peter Denys, of Hans Place, Middlesex, and only daughter of George, 2nd Earl of Pomfret. The trustees, under her Ladyship's will, sold it to Jonathan Wood, who died September 30th, 1860. He was son of Henry Wood (the founder of the family) and he bequeathed this to his son Henry Nash Wood, (lately deceased) with remainder to his eldest son. Jonathan built the present house in 1842.

"Solbys," situate near Poors lane, was so called from one William Solby, who owned it about 1768. It was anciently called "Pollingtons alias Strangmans place." The house either occupies or is contiguous to the site of the former mansion, and is in Hadleigh, but the greater part of the land is in Thundersley. The public are indebted to H. W. King, of Bow, for a most able and interesting account of the Strangman family and pedigree, published by him in the Essex Archæological Society's journal. In compiling this he waded through 200 volumes of early MSS., besides other books and records. The labor was immense, as the investigation took him (at intervals) 25 years. The family which became extinct soon after James Strangman, the antiquary's death in 1595-6, flourished as landowners for more than 500 years, and had been seated at Hadleigh since the reign of Edward III. They were known under the name of *Peregrinus*, from the conquest until the reign of Henry III. The family possessed estates in Hadleigh, Hawkwell, Hockley,

* His only brother was Richard Going, of Little Wakering Wick, and his sister married a Mr. Okeley.

Paglesham, and other parishes. Their own arms were

"Per bend sa. and arg. a bend raguled counterchanged." Crest, two staves erased and raguled in saltire, and enfiled by a ducal coronet, Or, but the crest said to be borne by James Strangman the antiquary, is, "a garb Or." In the "Harl. M.S." 4686, a second crest is assigned to this family, namely,— "A naked wild man, all hairy, girded with a garland of leaves vert, the body fleshy coloured, holding in his hand a club and it set on his foot," with the following motto, "*Verbum vir fortis nulli succumbit dolori.*" They quartered the arms of twenty-one families, including Atte-Hoo, Battayle, Fauntley, Cherrington, Yngoe, Clement of Hawkwell, de Coggeshall.

The church does not contain any monument of the Strangmans, but Morant mentions that their arms existed in the south window of that edifice. The only memorial of them in the parish is that contained in the registers. "1568, Mistris Strangman, Widdow, Sepulta 7th February. 1573, William Strangman, 16th Decr. esquier." The first mention of them in this county we find in the reign of Edward III, in the person of *William Strangman of Bradwell—juxta mare.* From him descended *John** Strangman of Hadleigh, who married a granddaughter of Peter Cherington of Rayleigh, citizen and fishmonger of London. His son, *John Strangman*, Serjeant at Law, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, married Mary, daughter of Robert Yngoe, and had *William Strangman*, whose first wife was Mary,† daughter of Sir Thomas Barnardiston, and his second Mary, sister of Sir Thomas Kemp Kt. By the first lady he had *Bartholomew*, Edward, John, *James* the antiquary, Ann, wife of William Lathum of Upminster, and Martha, wife of George Wiseman of Felstead. *Bartholomew* married Maria, daughter of Robert Crane, and died 8th February, 1581, aged 41. He left an only son *Robert* (in ward to Lord Hunsdon) who died childless. The widow of Bartholomew married Dudley Fortescue of

* John Strangman who died in 1529, and his wife were buried in Rayleigh Church, and Thomas Strangman a younger son.

† Morant is incorrect in his statement that she was Strangman's second wife.

Faulkborne Hall, in 1581, and upon the death of her son Robert, and his uncle James in 1595-6, aged about 40 years, no doubt conveyed to him the family estates. James Strangman's manuscripts were of great use to Dr. Salmon in his Essex history, and in fact his papers were the chief foundation for the work. He was one of the society of antiquaries founded by Archbishop Parker, and which numbered amongst its members Camden and Stowe. Part of his works were deposited in the Cotton library, but that ascribed to him as pertaining to monasteries, was the work of some other scribe. Solby's has since been in the Heber family, and was the property of the late Jonathan Wood, who died there. He bequeathed it to his son Henry Nash Wood (who died in 1869) with remainder to his eldest son, G. Lionel Wood. The portraits of the founder of the family, Henry Wood, and his son, Jonathan, were at one time at Solby's, but are now in Wales, in possession of his daughter, the wife of the Rev. Joseph Baines.

"Blossoms," situate in the street, and lately the property of Eleazar Tyrrell, of Horndon-on-the-Hill, has been sold and subdivided. It was in Francis Strangman, who died in 1557. William Crissicke of Buttsbury, gent., by will dated 30 July, 1678, and proved 6th August, 1685, gave his farm called "Sandells and Blossoms," then in the tenure of William Hurst, to his son Thomas and his heirs, remainder to his son William, and failing heirs to his son Crissicke (*sic*). There was an ancient family named Blossome allied to the Appletons, and the name of Creswick is to be found in the Hadleigh registers in 1588, when "John Chryswick et Margaret Bray were married Sepr. 26th."

"Sayers" farm belongs to Edward Woodard of Billericay, and was bought by him of Joseph Henry Good, of Hatton Garden, London. It was formerly in the Strangman family.

"Bramble Hall," part of which is in Thundersley, is the property of Thomas Woollings, of Comor farm, North Ockendon. He acquired it by marriage with Matilda, daughter of Joseph Smith, who lived at Blossoms, and died in 1828, aged 54. He is buried at Hadleigh, where rest the remains of his father, Joseph Smith, who died in 1814, aged 65, and his mother Mary in 1811, aged 58. He built the house and premises.

Christ's Hospital possesses 26 acres, 2 roods, and 33 poles of land, part of which consists of a meadow to the north of the church, where there are evident traces of the former existence of a building. At the first glance of Norden's map, one is apt to think this was the site of the residence of the Strangmans, but it was not so. This belonged to a family named Kirton, as appears by an inquisition *post mortem* relating to the property of one of them, where it is described as "*unum cop. messuagium juxta cancellam ecclesie.*" Besides, in an old map of estates of Tyrell of Beeches, in the Harleian library, it is clear that the Kirtons and Strangmans both had property in Hadleigh at the same time. The meadow is now called "Place Orchard."

The Dean and Chapter of Westminster have 12 acres 3 roods, and 5 poles. The Trustees of Enfield Charity have 71 acres, being part of Poynetts. Sion College has 19 acres of wood land, besides 24 acres of arable in Poors lane. G. Asser White Welch, as lessee under the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, has a cottage and 154 acres of wood land, which is free from all tithes, custom, or modus. The common, previous to its enclosure in 1852, consisted of 47 acres, 1 rood, and 20 poles, and in consequence of this taking place since the Commutation act, is absolved from all payment in the shape of tithe. Two acres of this common were reserved for allotments (3s. 6d. for 20 rods being charged) and 3 acres for recreation ground. The site for the Church of England day schools was

given by Lady Olivia B. Sparrow in 1855, and was conveyed by deed to the Trustees, the Rector and Churchwardens. The school-house and fittings cost £450, part of which sum, viz. £171, was a parliamentary grant. In 1820, the late Mrs. Martha Lovibond, of Hadleigh House, daughter of Sir Elijah Impey, Chief Justice of Bengal, and widow of George Lovibond, gave in her lifetime £750, four per cent. Bank annuities, for educating and clothing the poor children of the parish, whose parents are members of the Church of England, and appointed the Archdeacon of Essex and the Rector of the parish trustees of the said charity. This fund was directed by the donor to be called the "Hadleigh (Essex) Sunday School Fund." The teacher is appointed by the Rector, and in case of non-residence, by the officiating Minister and Churchwardens for the time being. After providing for instruction, the remaining funds are to be spent in providing warm clothing for the children at Christmas. The four per cent. annuities having been paid off in 1824, the produce of the £750 was invested in the purchase of £781 5s. 3d. three per cent. consols. The dividends are now applied in aid of the National School, and part of the income is given in religious books. At the same time, the rules and regulations as laid down by Mrs. Lovibond are kept in view. This lady, in her directions, declined having her name introduced upon the wall of the church, or blazoned upon a board, but the Curate at the time being, recorded her modesty and Christian virtues in the register book.

The church, dedicated to St. James, was the only one in the hundred, described by George Buckler in his book, printed in 1856, although notices of several others appeared in the *Chelmsford Chronicle* in a series of papers. It is with regret we have to state he met with very little encouragement, and was obliged to desist. This is much to be deplored, as a study of church architecture by the clergy and laity

would create a taste for that subject, and expedite the desired restoration of many churches which are still a disgrace to us as Christians. His essay appeared before the recent alterations at Hadleigh, and he states the church dates from the time of Stephen. "It comprises chancel, nave, south porch, and west tower; the latter, a timber structure, was built within the walls of the nave in the fifteenth century. The style of architecture is Norman, and it is one of the few churches in this county with chancels having apsidal terminations." * He says that "the windows on the south of the nave have features of rare occurrence and peculiar interest; on the jambs are remains of splendid niches which once contained figures on delicately-framed corbels. The rood screen stood in front of the chancel arch. The way from the stair-case† into the loft remains; near it, in the north wall, is a small cusped recess or credence‡ of the fifteenth century. The Norman font,† three feet two inches high, and two feet four inches in diameter, has an octagon top, on a bold torus moulding, which is circular in plan, and sculptured with trefoil leaves. The chancel arch, a fine specimen of Norman design, furnishes an example of the screen wall, used at that early period to

* The upper end of a chancel of this description is called the apsis, a term which signifies any arched or spherical building, like the canopy of heaven, and is so applied by St. Jerome. There are about ten examples of this description in the county, although common on the continent. In Essex we have for examples Copford, Great and Little Maplestead, Colchester Castle Chapel, &c.

† Before the recent repairs the old door and hinges still remained; the staircase is now blocked up.

§ The credence table was a place on which the elements in the Eucharist were placed previously to their being laid as an oblation on the altar. It is derived from the temple service, where the shew-bread was set in order before the Lord.

‡ The original shaft of this font was buried in a grave at the north-east end of the churchyard. Fonts are frequently older than the edifice itself, and in ancient times were so venerated that they were seldom moved, even when repairs or rebuilding was going on, but protected, so that they might retain their original position, which may generally be determined by the drain from it reaching below the foundation and of sufficient depth to allow the consecrated water to be absorbed beyond the reach of desecration.

divide the chancel from the nave. The wall is about a yard in thickness, and pierced with three semicircular arches. The side openings were closed up early in the fifteenth century with masonry, in which are well detailed cinquefoil perforations or hagioscopes. On the west face of the piers, between the arches, and in a width of scarcely eleven inches, are minute niches with cusped ogee arches and delicate tracery. In the north wall of the chancel is a lofty and very fine perpendicular niche with cusped tracery. Near it is an ambry, and opposite another like it. The floor of the altar (which is of stained deal) is raised above the floor of the church by four broad steps. The tower rests upon beams or plates laid on the floor." The original spire, described by Morant as shingled, was pulled down and the present one erected, which is devoid of interest. There remains only one bell, which was recast in 1636, but there were four in the reign of Edward VI. The arms of the Strangmans were formerly in this church, quartered with those of Cherington. Since Buckler's survey, the church has been restored, and the nave was found to be ornamented with paintings from east to west, from the floor to the wall plate. The paintings found were of four distinct periods. After the removal of the whitewash, entablatures, containing texts of Jacobean character, were visible, together with the Lord's Prayer and Commandments. One picture represented the legend of St. George and the Dragon, executed in the fifteenth century; the subject was elaborately treated, it exhibited an extensive landscape, with meadow, hill, a winding stream, and trees with birds amongst their branches. The saint was represented charging with lance in rest the dragon. Hard by knelt the Princess, whom the hero saint was rescuing. In the distance was the royal castle, and upon the battlements stood the king and queen wearing crowns. This picture was of a very meritorious character. Another repre-

sented the Virgin, crowned, standing behind a throne on which our Lord, as a boy, was seated in the act of blessing. Another, which still remains, is a figure of St. Thomas of Canterbury, vested in full pontificals. The slab of the Beauchamp's tomb in the chancel was found buried beneath the old floor, and reinterred below the new pavement, without any record being taken. This is to be regretted, and strongly to be deprecated. Where a slab is broken and cannot be restored there ought to be a fair transcript taken of the inscription and a correct enrolment kept of the precise spot where such stone was placed. When the clergy receive fees for putting down stones, in common honesty they ought to be respected. The name of Beauchamp occurs in the registers, which record the burial of Mrs. Elizabeth in 1690-1, and Mrs. Mary in 1690. In the chancel on the south wall is a white marble cross erected to the memory of Thomas, son of the Rev. William Harvey, M.A., curate of this parish, who died an infant in 1850, and a tablet on the north wall to William Polhill, A.B., rector, who died February 18th, 1802, aged 36 years. There is a painted window over the altar of the Crucifixion; on one side is another, representing Jesus bearing the cross, and on the other pious women are preparing his body for the tomb. In the nave of the church on the south side is a memorial window to the memory of Ann Wood, who died in 1858, aged 68 years, and Jonathan Wood, who died in 1860, aged 76; one light contains the figure of the B. V. Mary, crowned, bearing in her arms the infant Saviour in the attitude of benediction; the other St. Joseph, with a rod sprouting lilies. There is a painted window on the north side representing our Saviour driving out those who sold and bought in the temple out of the sacred edifice, and another on the south illustrating the want of faith of St. Peter when walking on the sea to meet the Son of God. In the churchyard is a double monument to

John Hislip, of Hadleigh Castle Farm, who died in 1736, and of Mrs. Peacock of Lazenby Hall, Yorkshire, who died the same year. Hislip's widow married one of the Mastermans of the Castle Farm. There are several tombs of the Mastermans, the last of whom known here, hanged himself upon a brace (since removed) in the castle barn in 1813. There is a vault enclosed with railings and a stone to the memory of Gilbert Sumner, who died in 1753, of Fantom Hall, North Bemfleet, and Gilbert his son, who died in 1801. There are several tombs of the Willoughby's, Richard, who died June 15th, 1781, aged 59, and Mary, his wife, who died January 11th, 1769, aged 35. Likewise Sarah Willoughby, May 13th, 1812, aged 87. To Alfred Boreham, who died October 15th, 1850, aged 29; also Arthur Wood Boreham, who was drowned by Start Point, off the Devonshire coast, in 1867, aged 17. To Jeffery Braney and John Webb. Besides the Woods already mentioned there are stones to the memory of Henry Wood, the ancestor of the family, who died July 17th, 1848, aged 94; to Jonathan, his grandson, who died in 1855, aged 39; and Henry Wood, of the Park Farm, in 1860, aged 47. To Jane Polhill, widow of the Rev. William Polhill, the 9th of March, 1823, aged 70 years. The parish claim the fence round the churchyard. From a statement on a board in the interior of the church we learn that the Incorporated Society for building churches granted £40 towards reseating this church, upon condition that 168 seats, numbered 1 to 6, 13 and 18 to 37, be reserved for the use of the poorer inhabitants of this parish. The sacred edifice is now fitted up with a hot water apparatus. An ancient communion cup, with a cover forming a Paten, now disused, is of the time of Edward VI., and has engraven upon it in large Roman capitals, "HADLE OF ESSEX BI THE CASTIEL." The modern cup was presented to the parish by the late rector, the Rev. Thomas E. Espin.

This living was, for the most part, in the gift of the Crown till the latter end of the reign of Edward VI. That monarch presented Thomas Cade to the living in 1550, but he was deprived in 1554, soon after the accession of Mary, the patronage being then vested in Richard Lord Rich and his descendants. From the inventories of church goods taken in Edward's reign we are enlightened as to the doings of those times. We find here, records of the sale of church furniture and a silver chalyce, and not only were other churches plundered in this respect, but the poor suffered at the same time and were actually defrauded. Mistress Strangman the younger, had bought the red and white satin altar frontal cloth and a coverlet which lay before the altar for 3s. of the churchwardens. Such purchases had become common. In this parish a custom existed of purchasing a stock of cows, sheep, &c., with the offertory money. This stock was farmed out at so much per annum. We find that Wyllyam and Margaret Strangman, Wyllyam Wayd, widow Camper, and others had hired cows, and the rent was reported unpaid for several years. There were likewise ten sheep, the value of which was 18d., and the yearly rent of them 3s. 4d., the which sheep were given for the finding of the "pascall lyght." The yearly rent of the cows, which were valued at 9s. 11d. each, went for a long time to relieve the poor inhabitants of the parish twice a year. Robert Lord Rich presented Anthony Sawbridge, S.T.B., in 1612, who vacated this living for that of Standon Massye in 1633, and was living there in 1650. John Ward, who succeeded him here, upon the presentation of Robert, Earl of Warwick, was grandson of John Ward, of Christ's College, Cambridge, who was preacher at Haverhill, Bury in Suffolk, and Writtle. At the latter place he was suspended by the bishop for not yielding to wear the surplice, and retired to Haverhill, where he first settled, and died there.

There is a long inscription to him in the chancel of that church partly in Latin, which is thus translated by Fuller:—

“Grant, some of knowledge, greater store,
More learned some in teaching,
Yet few in life did lighten more,
None thundered more in preaching.”

He left three sons, Samuel,* Nathaniel, and John, all preachers. Nathaniel,† father of our rector, was originally intended for the law, but altering his views became parson of Standon Massye, in Essex, and was excommunicated by Laud for not subscribing to the articles established by the canon of the church. He emigrated to America in 1634, but returned and died at Shenfield in 1653. Amongst his publications was a political one called “The Simple Cobbler,” which brought him most celebrity. His son John, the rector of Hadleigh, was of Emmanuel, Camb., B.A., 1626, and A.M., 1630. He resigned the living in June, 1639, and followed his father to New England, and assisted his uncle Ezekiel Rogers there at Rawley, and then removed in December, 1639, to his father at Ipswich, U.S.; in February 1639-40, he was at Newbury, U.S.; and in a few months after that, he became pastor of a church at Agamenticus, State of New York, and in 1645 he removed to Haverhill, U.S. He died at Haverhill, November 1693, aged 88, having been born at Haverhill, in our Suffolk, in November, 1606. He was succeeded in the living of this parish by Nathaniel Ward, possibly a relative, who held it only a few weeks. He was probably the same person who had the living of Pitsea conferred upon him by

* Samuel was famous for a sermon called “Jethro’s Justice of the Peace,” a sermon preached in 1623, with a dedication to Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Chancellor of England.

† His daughter Susanna married Giles Firmin, who in his early days was a physician in New England in America, and subsequently became a minister at Shalford in this county, where he was ejected for nonconformity. A memoir of the Rev. Nathaniel Ward has been published by his descendant, John Ward Deane, Albany, U.S., 1868, and for a further account of him see Cotton Mather’s *Magnalia*.

Samuel Moyer in 1670, and died in 1688. Upon Ward's cession, Robert, Earl of Warwick, presented William Welles, who resigned the rectory of Leigh, upon accepting this preferment. It was under his influence that the Parliamentary Protestation was signed in this parish in May, 1641. Part of the Protestation only, apparently in his handwriting, is still in existence, having been cut in half. This is much to be regretted, for though particular parties may not approve of its design, the destruction of public documents is much to be deplored and condemned. It is signed by about 50. Very few of the subscribers were able to write their own names, and most of them signed with devices, and a few with the cross. In fact, some of the Puritans entertained a prejudice against the use of the latter altogether, and in a Puritan tract of the seventeenth century the cross of Christ is introduced as a mark of the beast. These are some of the names appended: William Welles, Nicholas Young, Gamaliel Hale, William Watts, Thomas Sorrell, William Cooke, William Ellerton, Thomas Glasscock, Thomas Offin, Nicholas Wood, William Makyn, John Salmon,§ and Thomas Manning.

Upon the 23rd of July, 1643, the rector and a portion of his parishioners attested the vow and covenant. Amongst the signatures are "William Welles, pastor, Arthur Luke, Edward Drake, Richard Roberts, Gamaliel Hale, and John Allen; and on July 26th it was signed by William Cooke, William Lurraigne, and Francis Haward." This vow was a political one, by which those who subscribed pledged themselves not to consent to laying down arms until their Roman Catholic countrymen should cease to be protected against Parliament, and to assist according to their power and vocation the forces raised and continued by both Houses of Parliament against the

§ " Marie Salmon, wife of John Salmon, buried October 24th, 1635."

forces raised by the king against their consent.

The solemn league and covenant was subscribed March 17th, 1643-4, and it concludes with stating that its object was the glory of God and enlargement of the kingdom of Jesus Christ, and the peace and tranquility of Christian kingdoms and commonwealths. The fact is, it bound its subscribers to the extirpation of popery, prelacy, and the renunciation of neutrality. These were fearful days to live in, for although manifold abuses could be brought against Charles and the Church, such as the oppression of the odious Star Chamber, his own arbitrary views, with those of Strafford and Laud, and the grievance of the ship money, still, as the alternative was rebellion and treason, it was indeed a serious subject to be decided upon. This document is signed by "William Welles, Gamaliel Hale, John Cocke, Robert Auburne, Richard Pavett, Nathaniel Norden, William Dale, Robert Phillips, Arthur Luke, Thomas Smith, John Pilbrow, George Ayton, Thomas Sorrell, and John Harvey."

It is uncertain where Gamaliel Hale, who has signed the whole of the three documents, lived, or the site of the residence where this zealous partisan cogitated the events of the day. He subscribes with a bold and good hand, and probably was a man of substance and consideration, as he occupied the position of woodward to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, as shown from "Sequestered Lands in Essex" (MS. temp. rebellion). He has been made one of the principal actors in an historical novel by the Rev. W. E. Heygate. A recent writer says, after this signing they were well fitted for any acts of violence and desecration. It is not known when Welles departed this life, but in 1650 the return is, "Mr. Devorax, of him they hope the best, he having been settled but a little while." By the registers we find that "Deborah, ye daughter of Wm. and Eliz. Welles, was buried April 12th, 1644;" and

that "Elizabeth, ye wife of Wm. Welles, rector, was buried at Prittlewell, Feb. 17th, 1645." Upon the 17th of August, 1653, the living was conferred by the Earl of Warwick upon Samuel Bull, likewise rector of Rayleigh, who was deprived under the act of uniformity. It appears that Bull, by a note of his in the registers in 1660, had some doubt about the wood called Poors Wood, of Rayleigh, but it states it was specified in the Earl of Warwick's writings to be in the parish of Hadleigh. Bull received 50s. for tithe at the cutting. There is an entry likewise of a legacy, but the date is illegible, from Jessie Sayer, a servant of Lord Rich, of 40s. to nine persons of this parish, several of whom were women. John Bromley, who had this living in 1679, was deprived in 1688, probably for refusing to take the oaths to William III., and was succeeded by Mark Barbat, who was instituted by Henry St. John, Lord Bolingbroke, son of Sir Henry St. John, who had married Mary, one of the coheiresses of the Warwick family. This Lord Bolingbroke was the celebrated Tory minister of Queen Anne, who attempted by his intrigues to pave the way for the Pretender, but upon the accession of George I., being impeached for high treason, he omitted to surrender himself, and his name and arms were ordered to be razed from among the list of peers, and inventories were taken of his estates, which were declared forfeited to the Crown, but he took care to dispose of these.

The advowson of this parish was sold to William Judd, who lived at Hatfield Broad Oak, and who presented upon several occasions. Amongst others the Rev. Thomas Sampson, B.A., born November 24th, 1686, who was married in 1712 to Mrs. Sophia Smith, in St. Clement's church, Oxfordshire, by Mr. Howett, Fellow of Magdalen College. This Thomas Sampson was formerly curate; he seems to have been particularly happy in his married life, for

his wife, having died in 1722, he tells us by an eulogium in the registers, she was one of the best wives, the best mothers, and best mistresses that ever lived in this country. He afterwards remarried, and again praises are bestowed upon the second lady at her decease. By the first wife he had Samuel, afterwards rector, who was born at Leigh, May 30th, 1713. Thomas Sampson's churchwarden in 1714 was John Juibet, who attended him in settling disputes with Rayleigh concerning boundaries. Samuel Sampson was presented to the living in 1739 by John Spurgeon (who was now patron) upon the resignation of Charles Morgan. He married Mary Hubbard, of South Bemfleet, spinster, the same year. He died in 1750 and was succeeded by Nathaniel Ball, who resigned in 1758. Robert Polhill, M.A., succeeded him, followed by John Adey, B.A., in 1759. There were several of these Polhills rectors. William, rector in 1792, lived at the Park Farm, having married Jane,* the widow of — Silversides, who resided there. A stone in the churchyard records that she died on the 9th of March, 1823, aged 70 years. The last Polhill, John Bosanquet, was not only rector but patron, and sold the advowson in 1814 or 15 to Lincoln College. The Polhills† belong to a Kentish family of some note. John Mavor, of Forest Hall, near Oxford, was rector in 1825, in whose time the living was sequestrated. Thomas Espinell Espin, B.D., succeeded him in 1853, and resigned in 1868. He was rural dean in this district, and the parish are indebted to him for their organ and several painted windows in the church. He is theological tutor, warden, and vice-principal of Queen's College, Birmingham, and was formerly Fellow and tutor of Lincoln College, Oxford, and was first class in *Literis Huma*

* By her first husband she was mother of Ralph, of Swaine's Farm, Hawkwell; William, of Mucking Hall, Barling; and Jane, recently deceased.

† See Berry's Kentish Genealogies at the British Museum.

nioribus. He is one of the examining chaplains to the Bishop of Chester, who presented him upon his retirement from Hadleigh to the rectory of Wallasey, Birkenhead, Cheshire. His native county is Nottingham, and he is married to Elizabeth Jessop, of Birmingham. The college sold the advowson of this living at Christmas, 1867, to Charles Metcalfe, Esq., a retired solicitor, of Inglethorpe Hall, Emneth, near Wisbeach, Cambridgeshire. He is a J.P. and D.L. for that county. Upon the retirement of Espin he conferred this living upon his son, William Metcalfe, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, who is married to Rosa Sophia, only daughter of F. C. Skey, C.B., F.R.S., of London, the eminent surgeon.

The rectory house was built in 1856, at a cost of £2,000 (the charge of which on the living, not yet being redeemed) and the architect was G. E. Street. According to a terrier of 1821, we find the old house was principally of wood, and stood to the west of the present edifice. There are 69 acres 1 rood and 19 poles of glebe land, and the tithes were commuted in 1846 for the sum of £450 per annum. The rector is entitled to all tithes of every description, excepting the tithe of the wood belonging to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. The registers commence in 1568 and sidesmen are there mentioned. These officers were formerly called *Testes Synodales*, or *Juratores Synodi*; some called them Synodsmen, which appellation degenerated into Sidesmen. They were chosen annually, and their business was to assist the churchwardens in things relating to the church, and making presentment of such matters as are punishable by the ecclesiastical laws. In 1650 we have notice that "Robert Young, who strangled himself, was layd upon the common neere ye lane, that goes into Dean's wood." This was according to the law then in existence with regard to those who had committed *felo de*

se. There is an entry of the woods lying in Hadleigh (one of them is called Mad Bullock Thicket) from 1737 to 1757, and when they were felled. Amongst the *Nuptiarum catalogus*, Haynes is mentioned in 1588. John Drakes et Susan Brewer in 1593. John Allen et Myldred Apton in 1597. In 1618, Thomas Spurgeon and Barbara Lowder married. In 1619, Emmery Cater and Ann Asser. In 1629, Richard Salmon and Lydia Whitehead. In 1639, Thomas Sorrell and Mary Salmon. In 1651, John Rayner, widower, of Prittlewell, and Elizabeth Purchas. In 1657, Henry Hitchcocke, widower, and Mary Hobson. In "1659, Mr. John Browne, single man, minister of Great Thorndon, and Joanna Beard, single woman, of Hadleigh, were married May 21st." He was successor to Edmund, otherwise written Edward Cliffe, rector of East Horndon, and conformed at the restoration." "In the same year, John Warner and Anna Spurgeon, widow, both of Rayleigh, and Mr. Richard Bitteridge, single man, of Sutton, and Elizabeth Reyner, of Prittlewell, widow, November 10th. Upon November 29th, Nathaniel Rogers and Hannah Fisher, both of Leigh. In 1673, Robert Bramston, of Hadleigh, and Sarah Meakin, widow. In 1676, William Cockerton and Susan Taynter, both of Rayleigh. In 1733, the Rev. Thomas Case, rector of Wickford, and Mrs. Mary Tyrell, of Prittlewell, widow." He was probably son of the rector of Southchurch. "In 1734, Thomas Hanson and Susannah Vandevord." Among the baptisms in 1679, Lone mentioned, and Thomas Mutton in 1710." In the burials in 1685, Thomas Highham. In 1679 mention is made of an affidavit made before Samuel Hare, Justice, respecting a burial in woollen. This Hare lived at Leigh, and had a farm in Wallasea Island. (See Morant). In 1588 the names of Page, Hilton, and Haynes occur. In 1592, Glasscock. In 1599, Camper. "In 1616, the wife of Thomas Spurgen buried. In 1617, Edward Swayne.

In 1662, John Rich buried. In 1728, Jonathan Bernard buried. In 1734, Miss Eliza Smith, of Tarpotts, in South Bemfleet. In 1778 John Shakesper was buried."

One of the most eccentric characters that all ages produce was James Murrell, known as the cunning man, who lived at Hadleigh, and died in 1860. He was by trade a shoemaker, but partly procured the means of subsistence by telling fortunes*, and pretended to have the power of counteracting the designs of witches, discovering thieves, and where stolen property was secreted. He was a herbalist, and administered potions and drugs. He would purchase forty different nostrums at a time, his price being one penny for each, which he refused to have labelled. A sackful of letters were destroyed at his death, but enough remain to prove that an amount of ignorance, credulity, and superstition exists, which appears incredible. Some addressed to him allude to the appearance of apparitions, and from the tenor of others from women, mysteriously alluding to being in trouble, and hearing he can relieve them, we may suspect him of darker doings. Amongst his books were "Culpepper's Midwife enlarged," "Powell's Pharmacopeia," "Urania Practica," by Vincent Wing and William Leybourn, 1652, and *Παραλησηματα*, by W. Salmon, 1687. Some of the letters are from the Rochford Union, and those who have never dived into the correspondence of Murrell can have but a faint idea of the power this man wielded over the minds of numbers. Although using

* By statute 9, George II., c. 5, prosecutions against persons for witchcraft were abolished, but the misdemeanour of persons pretending to use witchcraft, tell fortunes, or discover stolen goods by skill in the occult sciences, is still deservedly punished with a year's imprisonment. "A white witch was one of those (viz., sorcerer or magician) who exerted themselves to cure diseases inflicted by witches, to discover thieves, recover stolen goods, foretell future events and the state of absent friends. Impostors who feed and live on the superstitions of the lower orders practised that curious part of astrology wherein is contained the calculating of nativities, or casting of nativities, with all the other magikes."

him, as many did, for their own purposes, there appears to have been great dread attached to his supposed powers. It appears there were those who conveyed him information, so that when his dupes came to consult him he used to astonish them by revealing things supposed to be known only to themselves. He used to parade the terrors of the law, without enforcing it, before those who stole, in order to recover the property, and in this way occasionally gained his point. Many of the letters addressed to him are in a capital hand, indicative of education, but the writers appear to be as deeply steeped in superstition, or more so, than many others not possessing those advantages. One is from a farmer at Tiptree, complaining of "being possessed with a damnable spirit of infernal torment," which prevents him from gathering in his harvest, and appeals to be relieved from the machinations of some one molesting him; some are from women jealous of their husbands, whom they suspect of infidelity, and, naming suspected rivals, demand the culprits to be pointed out; some are from young girls, imploring him to agitate the young men, so that they will fix the wedding day, as they feel so miserable and unhappy; from some requesting their planets be read or nativities cast; and another desiring him to give some old woman her death wound. He was in the habit of constructing amulets, containing benedictions. It seems extraordinary that this man continued his career unchecked to the end, and was allowed to propagate the wildest notions, whose extermination will be a work of some difficulty. He possessed a glass (considered by his credulous dupes miraculous) which is still to be seen at Hadleigh. It is simply an optical delusion, being in the form of a double telescope, called a penetrating glass, mounted on a hollow wooden tube, fitted with reflecting mirrors. By placing the hand, or any substance between the glasses the light is not obstructed, to the

consternation of the uninitiated. He could thus pretend to see through iron or a brick wall. Another device he used was to have two iron bottles,* resembling in shape Italian irons, with a plug at the mouth where he used to insert his compounds, consisting of parings from horses hoofs, and other articles which must be nameless, mixed with pins, chemical ingredients, &c. which were soldered up by the village blacksmith, and placed upon the fire; if these precious articles exploded he pretended to destroy the power of the witch or wizard; but if this did not take place the victim might rest assured he was delivered over to the powers of evil, and the spell could not be dissolved. Upon one of these trials so violent was the shock that the fire-place was nearly blown out, and the room received considerable damage. Under the pretence of contemplating the stars, or going a journey, he used to travel by night, when he was supposed to have passed over distances in an extraordinarily short time. By these arts he obtained great influence amongst the people, and he had correspondents embracing a circuit of thirty miles. Like the Pythoness of Apollo's temple at Delphi, his answers were obscure, and one was left to solve the riddles he conveyed. He was not always considered successful in his efforts for relieving victims from the spells, under which they suffered, as a man well-to-do gravely assured me that he cured his own wife, who was bewitched, after Murrell had failed, by roasting a sheep's heart, stuck full of pins and needles, for three hours, with other appliances which cannot be mentioned. A party once consulted Murrell as to what religious persuasion he should adopt, and was recommended by him to join the Methodists, as that persuasion was more likely to obtain health for his soul, which course he immediately adopted. But what confirmed the belief

* One of these bottles is loaded as left by Murrell, and is now in the possession of his son.

of numbers in him was the fact that after a pretended consultation of the planets, he once, after much solicitation, foretold a man's death upon a certain day and hour, which actually occurred. No doubt this man, placing implicit confidence in him, received so severe a shock to his nerves, that the prophecy was fulfilled. This impostor appeared to believe himself an agent of God to counteract evil, and was in the habit of using a form of prayer to the deity, before he had recourse to his artifices. Upon his death bed he declared to John Godson, the curate, that he firmly believed in the powers attributed to him, and that he was no deceiver. His last wish was, that his books, instruments, &c. should be retained in his family, as he prophesied that one of his descendants would arise to continue his profession.

There was formerly a right of bridle way, which is now rarely used, leading from Scrub Lane, in this parish to Prittlewell, by Earls Hall, leading through Belfairs, Gowles, Brick House, and Colemans; and another in continuation of the Castle Lane to Leigh and South Bemfleet.

NOTE.—Amongst the documents produced at the trial of *Bridges v Highton*, respecting the fishery of Hadley Ray, was one, showing that it was the dower of Queen Catherine Parr. It had that Queen's name endorsed thereon, with a plan drawn by herself, and these words "*Nostra Piscaria in dominio Hadleigh.*" Catherine, after Henry's death, married the Lord High Admiral Thomas Seymour, Baron Seymour of Sudley, brother of the Protector Somerset. It was quite a love match on her part. The marriage took place shortly after the King's death, in June, 1547, and she died in child-bed on 30th September, 1548. Her child, a daughter, survived only a few months. It appears the subsequent grant of the fishery by Edward VI to Lord Rich was in consequence of a *douceur*.

HAWKWELL.

FORMER OWNERS—CHARITIES—THE CHURCH—RECTORS—EXTRACTS FROM REGISTERS, &c.

HAWKWELL, otherwise written Hacwell, Hachewell, Heckwell, and Hawkeswell, is probably derived from the German Hochwell or the High-Well. This well situate just within the bounds of the parish upon the ridge of the upper common, not far from the White Hart Inn, is stated in the courtrolls of the manor of "Clements in Hackwell" to be common to all the tenants of that manor, and in the recent partition of the upper common, is situated within the allotment of Parker and Smith, with free access to all parties that have rights therein. The water of this well* is remarkably soft, and being adapted for all domestic purposes is highly prized. It is now bricked and is about 18ft. deep; it formerly was merely an earthen excavation, and the water was allowed to run over the surface, and meandering through the centre of the common, was very convenient for stock and geese depastured thereon. The parish contains 1353 acres, 2 roods, 35 poles, which includes 21 acres, 2 roods, 3 poles of roads. It had a population of 329 in 1835, and 334 in 1861, and its rateable value in 1862 was £2254 5s.

The soil of Hawkwell is for the most part fertile, consisting of a good mixed soil, well adapted for cereals,

* There is another well at the other end of the parish called "iron well," situate in a lane of that name, adjoining Swaines Farm. The water of this well, as its name implies, is hard. The lane leads from Rochford to Hawkwell, and tradition assigns it to have been the original high way to London, before the new road through Rochford Park was constructed. See Rochford.

but requiring underdraining. There is some good land on the upper common; which, together with a portion of the arable glebe, and other lands adjoining the parish of Rochford, is the most productive.

Ulmar, a free man, possessed the parish in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and at the survey, Eudo and his undertenant Pirot, together with Suene and an undertenant named Godfrey had lands here. There are two manors, those of Hawkwell* and Clements. The jurisdiction of the former is extinct. Pirot's successors continued at Hawkwell Hall as late as the year 1340, when Ralph Pirot was reported as holding under the honor of Rayleigh, in an estimate taken of the Knight's fees at that period. Sir John de Coggeshall, who died in 1360, had this manor, and was succeeded by his son Henry, and his grandson Sir William de Coggeshall, who died in the commencement of Henry the Sixth's reign, leaving four daughters, coheirs, *Blanch*, Alice, Margaret, and Maud. *Blanch*, the eldest daughter, brought this estate in marriage to John Doreward, of Bocking. It continued in this family until the extinction of the male line, when the three daughters of Elizabeth Fotheringhay, sister of the last John Doreward, who died in 1495, inherited the large estates of the Doreward family. It afterwards fell to the Crown, when Thomas Boteler, Earl of Ormond, had a grant of it, from whom it came, through his daughter Margaret, as Rochford to William Bullen, and then to his son Sir Thomas Bullen, Viscount Rochford, and Earl of Wiltshire and Ormond, who died in 1538. Mary, his then only surviving child, married first to William Carey, and afterwards to Sir William Stafford. They jointly sold this manor, by license dated 16th of April, 1541, to William Nevill. It was afterwards in Richard Lord Rich, and descended to his successors. One of the Warwick coheirs brought it to her husband

* No courts are now held for this manor; the copyholds being enfranchised, but it is nominally in the Bristow hands.

Daniel, Earl of Nottingham, who sold both manor, demesne, and advowson to the ancestor of the Bristow family. At the late sale of the estates, Hawkwell Hall was purchased by Samuel Baker,* who died here in 1868, and left it to his son John Baker, of Hockley, the present owner, who resides at Seviars, in that parish. The house was built in 1833, during Cory's occupation.

The manor of Clements took its name from a family to whom it belonged. It was in Philip Clement in 1440. His daughter and heir married John Ingoe, who with her had this estate. Nicolas Ingowe, his son and heir, was father of Robert who died the 8th of December, 1500, and held this manor of Clements, with appurtenances and messuages in Hawkwell, called Wallfletes, Chippriam, Adgors, and Fowlers, of the Prior of Prittlewell, by the rent of 2s. 4d., together with Bawdewyns in Hockley, and several other estates. He married Johanna, daughter of Richard Doreward, of Barking, and had by her Mary Ingow, who was wife of John Strangman, of Hadley-Castle, to whom she brought this estate. He left a son William, who died 8th of December, 1573, leaving a son Bartholomew, whose widow Maria conveyed it by marriage 25th July, 1581, to Dudley Fortescue, younger son of Henry Fortescue of Faulkborne Hall, who died 12th September, 1604, leaving Daniel his son and heir. The estate was subsequently sold to the family of Rich, Earls of Warwick, and was sold by their coheirs to Richard Hopper, of Rayleigh. His only daughter and heir Pentecoste brought it in marriage to her husband Ezekiel Hall, of Fenchurch Street, London, Merchant. She had by him three sons and two daughters, and after their mother's decease they sold this estate to Thomas Holt, of Rochford Hall, who died 2nd February, 1745-6. This *Thomas Holt* was son of

* He was buried at Hockley, and for a further account of him see that parish. He was brother of Dr. Baker, of Maldon.

Thomas Holt, clerk, who married two wives, the first a Boate, by whom he had the Rev. Thomas Holt,* rector of Streatham, and by the second, Charity Shirley, of Sussex, he had *Thomas Holt*,† above named, of Rochford Hall and Clements Hall. The first wife, Boate, is supposed to have been sister to Anne Boate, of Portsmouth, first wife of Sir Josiah Child,§ Baronet, the elder. The marriage between Thomas Holt, clerk, and Charity Shirley (temp. Oliver Cromwell) took place before Richard Knowles, Esq., one of the commissioners of the peace, in the county of Sussex.

The Shirleys, of Sussex, are a well known historic family. One of them Queen Elizabeth sent to prison with his companion Nicholas Clifford, for wearing on their return from abroad the order of St. Michael, given them by Henry IV, of France. She made them return their orders, saying, "I will not have my sheep marked with a strange brand." The Rev. Thomas Holt died and was buried at Streatham, and his half brother, *Thomas Holt*, J.P., of Clements Hall, died at the Gore in the Isle of Ely, February, 1745-6, leaving this estate to his great nephew, *Thomas White*, F.R.S., second son of John White,‡ of Selborne, Barrister, who married Anne, the only child of the Rev. Thomas Holt, clerk, rector of Streatham, in Surrey. He

* The Rev. Thomas Holt was presented to the living of Streatham, in Surrey, by Mrs. Howland, of that place, sister to Sir Josiah Child. Mrs. Howland's only child, Elizabeth, married Wriothesley, second Duke of Bedford; and through this marriage Thomas Holt, of Clements Hall, became auditor to the Duke, and died at Thorney, where he went to reside, to look after the great draining operations in the Bedford level.

† Thomas Holt bought Rochford Hall for Sir Richard Child, afterwards Earl Tynney, who granted him a lease of it, which lease, Holt, upon his removal to the Isle of Ely, disposed of to Mr. Sly, of Canewdon.

§ By this marriage he had one daughter, who became the wife of John Howland, of Streatham, and two sons who died young.

‡ He was descended from the Whites, of Swan Hall, near Witney, Oxon and was of the same family as the Whites, of South Warnborough, Hants. Sir Samson White was Knighted when Mayor of Oxford, by Charles II, and left a son, the Rev. Gilbert White, vicar of Selborne, in Hampshire. This latter left a son *John*, who married the heiress of the Rev. Thomas Holt.

was brought up to the medical profession, but never practised and was at one time connected with the iron trade. He was for many years a Fellow of the Royal Society, and was an excellent classical scholar, botanist, chemist, and electrician, as far as electricity was understood in those days. He contributed materially to his brother the Rev. Gilbert White's natural history of Selborne. He married Mary, widow of — Yalden, daughter of Henry Leach, of Loveston, Pembrokeshire, and died in 1797, aged 73, leaving a son *Thomas Holt* White, of Clements Hall, and of Chase Lodge, Enfield, who married in 1801, Louisa, daughter, of John Rashleigh, of Penquite, co. Cornwall, and died in 1841, leaving a son *Algernon Holt* White, Esq., and several daughters.* Mr. White's motto is *Plus vigila*. He was born in 1807, married in 1838, Emma Louisa, only daughter of the late Thomas Harrison, F.R.S., of Streatham Park, Surrey. His eldest son is Thomas Holt, born in 1842.

"Woodlands," belonging to the parish of Kew, Surrey, containing 32 acres, was bought in April, 1714. There was much disputing and many legal proceedings between that parish, and the Rev. Richard Burgh Byam, late vicar of Kew, respecting this property, which he claimed as his, for he affirmed that it was purchased as an additional endowment of the living, but the parish refused to allow the claim, and ultimately gained possession. The rents arising from it are expended in the repairs, &c., of the church.

"Pulpits," belonging to the vicar of Kew, has already been described in South Fambridge, and contains 6 acres and 8 poles in this parish.

The poor of Rochford† have 5 acres and 4 poles of

* Of whom Rose, and Anna still survive; Mary died in 1854, Caroline was killed by the Staplehurst Railway accident, in 1865, and Louisa Rose, the eldest daughter, died at East Budleigh, Devon, on the 7th October, 1870.

† Rochford possesses, within its own boundary, several more enclosures of a similar nature; for an account of which see that parish.

arable land in Hawkwell, situate on the north side of Iron Well Lane. It is stated in the parliamentary reports of 1786, that it was the gift of an unknown donor, for what purpose was likewise unknown, and was then vested in the churchwardens and overseers. In the report of the commissioners for enquiring into charities and education of the poor, this is stated to be in Rochford parish, which is incorrect.

There is a charity here, belonging to this parish, called "Sudbury's* charity," consisting of an arable field and three cottages; the whole containing 8 acres and 11 poles, was purchased with £100, being the amount derived under the will of Robert Sudbury, dated 16th of January, 1615. The property is situate in the south-east part of this parish. One pound per annum is payable out of the estate to Hockley, and one pound to Eastwood. The remainder of the rents are received by the churchwardens, and by them laid out in the purchase of coals, blankets, and bread, which are distributed amongst the poor of the parish. The charity commissioners have incorrectly stated the quantity of this land.

"Canvey Island Chapel" has 6 acres, 3 roods, 1 pole of arable land, situate near Iron Well Lane, for an account of which the reader is referred to the history of that island.

"Christ's Hospital"† has 13 acres, 3 roods, 23 poles, and a cottage recently built on the waste, situate near Golden Cross.

"Christ's College," Cambridge, has likewise a small farm, consisting of 36 acres, and 39 poles, at the extremity of the lower common, called "Mount Bovers." They have likewise 5 acres, 2 roods, and 20 poles of wood land, near the Hockley Spa Hotel.

The late Charles Harrison, of Richmond, Surrey,

• See Eastwood and Hockley.

† Some of this land extends into Rochford; for an account of which see that parish.

brother of Mrs. Holt White, possessed a field in Hawkwell, which was bought of the executors of Francis Furner, a watchmaker, of Rochford. It is now in Thomas Harrison, a minor.

"Ravens or Porters," was formerly the property of Dr. Swaine, of Rochford. It was sold by his widow to Colonel Strutt, one of whose daughters, Charlotte Clara Elizabeth, brought it by marriage, in 1841, to the Rev. Robert Drummond, M.A., late vicar of Feering, near Kelvedon. He resides now at St. Catherines Court, Batheaster, Bath.

"Huttleys," consisting of a cottage and two enclosures of meadow land and one of arable, situate near to Clements Hall gate, formerly belonged to W. R. Huttley, who, as his tombstone records, died in 1815. It is now in George Wood, Solicitor, of Rochford. The owner of this property claims the waste upon the frontage upon either side of the road, and the following tradition attaches to it. There were formerly gates at either extremity of the property, which were removed in consequence of the parish undertaking the repair of the highway.

"High House," together with several enclosures near the rectory, was formerly in the Cockerton family, but has recently been acquired by William Lincoln, of the Drovers Arms, Hockley.

There is some land called "Golden Cross," from its vicinity to the spot indicated as the position of that memorial.

The "White Hart" Inn belongs to J. A. Hardcastle.

"Swaynes" farm, which is partly in Rochford, was formerly the property of the Warwick family, and in the tenure of Henry Colefax, in 1577. It was bequeathed by the last Earl of Mornington to Lord Cowley, and sold by him with the rest of the Rochford estates. William Taylor Meeson is now owner. It was the residence in the last century of Daniel Dale, mentioned by Morant, as having property in Rochford.

The present family of Knapping, of South Shoebury, are descended maternally from these Dales. The Daniel Dale here spoken of, a widower, married in 1758, Mary Pool, widow, of Little Wakering, at that church. In Hawkwell church yard, at the east end of the chancel, which it touches, is a brick altar tomb, surmounted with a stone slab, with this inscription, "In memory of Mr. Daniel Dale, late of Swaines, in this parish, who died 14th October, 1785, aged 87. Also of Mr. Daniel Dale, son of the above, who died 14th April, 1796, aged 34. Also of Daniel, son of the last named, by Catherine his wife, who died 1st October, 1793, aged 6 years. Also Mary, wife of the first named, died 15th February, 1799, aged 67."

The tithe of this parish was commuted in 1840, and was apportioned by C. Matson, of Baddow Park. Its amount is £310 per annum, which sum includes £20 per annum settled on the glebe. This sum is far from onerous, amounting to something like 5s. per acre, and certainly far below its value, which includes tithe of every kind. The commons, known as the upper and lower, escaped the operation of the commutation act, as they were enclosed after that event. The upper common, being in Clements Hall manor, was enclosed in 1842, and consisted of 50 acres, 1 rood, 7 poles. The lower one, or Bristow's common, was enclosed a few years later, and comprised 45 acres, 1 rood, and 13 poles. Two acres of this common were assigned to the incumbent upon its enclosure, and there are besides appendant to the glebe 94 acres and 24 poles.

The rectory house was built by the Rev. Charles Wallington in 1831, and was enlarged by Kempe in 1858. An old terrier, of 1610, says there existed at that time a parsonage house, tiled, besides a meadow abutting N.W. upon Hawkwell Hall ground. The parish map made at the commutation has been lost, and a fresh one substituted, copied from the one in London.

The National Schools were built in 1846, upon land given by A. H. White, Esq., and the total cost of the building was £300, including a parliamentary grant. It is a mixed school, under a mistress.

The church, dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary, is situated some distance from the village, surrounded with trees, and the area for burials has been enlarged, by throwing down the bank, and filling up the ditch surrounding it. Upon the waste adjoining the church yard, stands a magnificent oak, with great length of arms, one of which extends 48 feet. Differences of opinion at one time prevailed respecting the ownership of this splendid tree, but the claim of Mr. White is now considered undisputed. The probable date of the edifice is about 1400. It is built of rubble, with stone buttresses, and has a timber tower with shingle covered spire. Morant states "there are two bells." These have now disappeared, and there exists at present but one,* having upon it this inscription "Thomas Mears and Son of London, fecit, 1806." The dimensions of the interior of the church are, length of nave 32 feet, width of ditto 18 feet, length of chancel 15 feet 8 inches, and width 18 feet. The east and west windows have three lights each, with floriated heads. The former is a modern copy of the original window, filled with stained glass, and erected by the sons of the Rev. Charles Wallington, to the memory of their father and mother. The stained glass of the window, as regards the two side lights, is that which is known as "geometrical." The centre light contains the arms of the Rev. C. Wallington, impaling those of his wife, viz:—

Quarterly, 1st and 4th, ermine three bars, wavy, sable, on a chief Gules, a saltire, or. 2nd Or, a lion rampant guardant Gules. 3rd Argent 3 fusils Gules

* In the inventory of church goods taken in the reign of Edward VI, "John Crymybell" is mentioned as assisting in pulling down certain of the church bells, and placing them in the hands of "Wylliam Staford," Knight. He is probably identical with the same John Crymble, who was tenant of Hawkwell Hall manor in 1577, and perhaps resided at the Hall.

2 and 1. Gules on a fess sable 3 cinquefeuilles of the first. The whole impaling, Argent on a bend azure 3 cinquefeuilles of the first. Crest, A Stag's head proper, erased gules, on a collar sable, a cinquefeuille between 2 fusils argent. Motto. *Nec temere sed fortiter.*

The two other windows on the south side of the chancel also contain stained glass. The easternmost of two lights, trefoil headed, contains simply floral quarries with a border. The other, a "low side window,"* of one light, geometrical pattern, and inscription to the memory of Robert Sudbury, the philanthropist, inserted at the joint expense of A. H. White and the Rev. J. Montagu. Near these windows is a piscina. The pulpit, with the date 1870 to be found within, is of carved oak, the work of the present rector's own hands, and succeeded one which was erected about 1650. The font of carved Caen stone, with an oak cover, bearing the same date as the pulpit, was likewise executed by the manual labor of the Rev. J. Montagu.

There are two stones in the church yard, one of which has "Here lyeth ye body of Mrs. Mary Carr, wife of Mr. William Carr, of this parish, who departed this life May 7th, 1732, in the 29th year of her age, and also three of her children." The other is to the memory of "William Carr, who died March 25th, 1775, aged 74." Another to William Westcott, born at North Molton, Devonshire, December 28th, 1787, died at Clements Hall, in this parish, October 15th, 1835, in the 48th year of his age, having lived 21 years in Mr. Holt White's family, a faithful servant. To William Redgrave, who died February 16th, 1810, aged 69 years, and Sarah his wife, who died in 1810, aged 66. There are several wooden monuments to the Blackborne family. A stone at the end of the chancel to John Cotton, who died January 23rd, 1835, aged 73 years; and another to George Sanders, born February 5th, 1848, who died July 15th, 1866.† There are two

* See Eastwood.

† The stone records he died in 1867, which is an error.

stones of the Benton family; James, who died in 1812, aged 66, and James his son,* who died in 1813, aged 30. There is likewise a stone to two children, Sarah Ann and Daniel, daughter and son of Daniel and Louisa Pissey, of this parish. Sarah died 28th October, 1819, aged 15 months, and Daniel, 19th November, 1819, aged 2 years and 9 months. Their parents lived at Clements Hall, which they left for Little Wakering Wick.

This rectory from time immemorial has been appendant to the manor, and was in 1323 and 1330 in Sir Robert, then in Sir Richard Bayouse, Kts., after that in the Coggeshals, in whom it continued till 1400. But when William Gray was Bishop of London, the revenues of Ashingdon and Hawkwell, being separately inadequate to maintain a rector, these parishes were united, with the consent of the patron, and John Cherylbury was presented to both, in 1454, by John Doreward, but he dying shortly afterwards, they were again disunited, and have remained so ever since. Nicholas Wardall was presented by Richard Lord Rich, in 1564. He was chaplain to Lord Rich, and had dispensation to hold the two livings of Hawkwell and South Fambridge, 8th September, 1564. He was one of the witnesses against Robert Wright, domestic chaplain to Lord Rich, at Rochford Hall, who was in trouble for his puritanical tendencies. Nathaniel Ward, already mentioned in Hadleigh, was presented in January, 1639, by Robert, Earl of Warwick, and resigned in 1643. Thomas Oresby, who was next presented to this living by the Earl of Manchester and others, is described as an able preacher. He was one of those ministers who signed the petition, in May, 1646, to the Lords urging them to a more speedy action in the organization of the counties on the Presbyterian discipline. Daniel Joyner was presented February 8th, 1662, by Charles, Earl of Warwick.

* His wife died and was buried at Wanstead.

His admission is entered in the register of the diocese, the benefice "*legit. jam vacante.*" He was formerly vicar of Chipping Ongar, and was buried at High Ongar. The following is the inscription on the tombstone in the churchyard, "Underneath this marble lieth buried the body of Daniel Joyner, rector of Hackwell, in this county, who departed this life May 19th, 1695, aged 54 years. Here also lyeth the body of John Lavender, late rector of this parish, who departed this life April 23rd, 1670, aged 59 years; and likewise Margaret his wife. And also, near this stone, Johanna, his second wife. Of a grateful remembrance to a dearest and loving husband and her honoured parents, the said John and Margaret, this stone was laid by Rebecca Joyner." He was succeeded at Hawkwell by Robert Skingle, upon the presentation of Daniel, Earl of Nottingham, upon whose death, in 1736,* the living was conferred by Robert Bristow, now patron upon George Sykes, M.A., who resigned in 1757, upon being appointed to the living of Rayleigh. He was succeeded by Nicholas Fayting, whose death occurred in 1789. According to the registry of the Bishop of London, the Rev. Charles Wallington, M.A., was instituted June 13th, 1789. He was student of Christ Church, Oxford, and was ordained, in 1776, a deacon in the chapel of St. John Baptist, at the palace of Abergwilly, by James Yorke, Bishop of St. Davids. He was tutor to the late Robert Bristow, who gave him the living, and had the same office in the Burdett family, whose friendship he enjoyed to the last. His family have been long settled in Gloucestershire, and at his decease a paper of that county, in notifying his death, contained a very flattering article respecting him. According to Burke's Landed Gentry, "he was descended from Edward Wallington, Esq., of Wotton-under-Edge, who married

* Salmon and Morant give the date of Rev. George Sykes institution erroneously. It was on 13th December, 1736. See Bishop of London's registry.

in 1669, Susanna Okes, leaving a son Charles Wallington, of Malmesbury, who had a son, the Rev. Charles Wallington, vicar of Frampton, co. Gloucester. His son, Charles Wallington, of Dursley, who married in 1749, Elizabeth, sole daughter and heir of Nicholas Neale, was father of our rector, who was born in October, 1750, and married in January, 1781, Frances Russell, daughter of Hamlyn Harris, of Daventry, co. Northampton, by whom he had two sons; the eldest of whom Charles Arthur Granado is Major General in the E.I.C's service, and the youngest, John Clement, late Lieut. Col. of the 10th Hussars, in which regiment he fought at Waterloo, married Alice, daughter of William Charles Monck Mason.

Our rector was a man of very venerable appearance, with white hair, and both he and his wife were extremely deaf. He died at Hawkwell, and was buried beneath an altar tomb, in the north east corner of the church yard, with this inscription, "Charles Wallington, M.A., rector of this parish, died March 28th, 1843, aged 93 years, also Frances Russel Wallington, wife of the above, died March 11th, 1848, aged 100 years." The Rev. Philip Wynn Yorke,* (rector of South Shoebury) succeeded him, who died 21st March, 1858, aged 70, when this living was conferred, June 15th, 1858, upon the Rev. Reginald Carlisle Kempe (tutor to Robert Bristow, junr.) whose eldest sister, Ada Sophia, (born January 9th, 1841) he married. He was educated at Bury St. Edmunds and Kings' College Schools; obtained a demyship at Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1850, where he took the degrees of B.A. and M.A. He was ordained Deacon and Priest by the Bishop (Wilberforce) of Oxford, upon his College title, but resigned the demyship, on being appointed in 1858 to the rectory of Hawkwell, which he resigned in 1861, and at present resides at Niton, Isle of Wight, being without preferment. He is brother to the rector of

* See South Shoebury.

St. James's, Piccadilly, London. His successor was the present rector, the Rev. James Montagu, B.A., of Magdalen College, Cambridge, who was instituted November 12th, 1861. He is of an old Wiltshire family, and his ancestors can be traced back for nine or ten generations at Lackham, in that county. The advowson at present belongs to Mrs. Sophia Durie, widow of the late Robert Bristow.

The registers commence in 1695. "Anne, wife of Richard Glascock, buried 1701. Richard Hust, of Sutton, and Mrs. Cockerton were married, June, 1706. Cable mentioned in 1721. William Carr, son of William, and Mary his wife, bap. 1726. Higham is mentioned in 1741. Thomas Hewitt, curate in 1748," Then follows the signature of John Rant. who subscribes himself rector in 1749. This is apt to mislead enquirers. Rant might have been officiating minister, but his name does not occur in the Bishop of London's registry as rector of this parish. His rectory was that of Sutton, some miles away. "In 1775 the names of Daniel and Mary Sawell occur. Mary, daughter of Daniel Dale, junr., and Catherine his wife, was bap. December 15th, 1801. M. Moor, curate, 1801. Jos. Wise, curate, 1804. Judith, daughter of Backhouse Carr, Esq. and Mary his wife, mentioned. C. A. Sage, curate in 1817. J. F. Squire,* curate, 1819. M. Newport, curate, 1821, William Peart, curate. A. Anderson, curate, 1826. R. J. Mapleton, curate, 1842. John Godwin Hale, M.A., curate in 1860," is son of Archdeacon Hale, of London, and was lately vicar of Tottenham, and now rector of Therfield.

* J. F. Squire, M.A. Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, was for a long time curate of Hadleigh, till he got the College living of Beauchampton, co. Oxon, where he died.

HOCKLEY.

MANORS AND ESTATES—CHARITIES—ANCIENT MOUNDS—THE
SPA—CHURCH—CLERGY—TIMES THE MARTYR, &c., &c.

HOCKLEY was formerly divided into Great and Little Hockley, and amongst divers ways of spelling it, we find it written Hacheleia, Hokkele, and Hocklie, *super montem*. Some historians think the name was derived from two Saxon words, Hoc, mallows, and ley, pasture, but Gough's Camden's Brit. tells us that it has the memorial of slaughter in its name,* from haccan, *cœdere*. With all due deference to these authorities, the probability is, it is from Hoch, high and ley pasture or place. The parish contains 4614 acres, which includes 255 acres, 3 roods, and 24 poles on the north side of the Crouch, and 152 acres, 1 rood, and 12 poles being part of Clement's Marsh, which latter is surrounded by the parish of Paglesham. The rateable value is £5805, and it had a population of 777 in 1835, and 798 in 1861.

The soil is for the most part heavy; some of the best land is to be found at the north west end, by Hylands, Lines near Hull Bridge, Cracknells, High Elms, Maryons and part of Lovedowns; towards Plumberow the soil is more adhesive, but there is some fair turnip land on Seviars and Whitbreads.

Both before and after the conquest, the capital manor of this parish was in Barking nunnery; Robert, son of Wimarc, had another, which belonged to Suene, with another here, and William de Warenn† held then

* Alluding to the battle between Canute and Edmund Ironside.

† It was a descendant of this William de Warenn, Earl Warenne, who being required by the commissioners of Edward I, to show by what title he held his estates, produced his sword, and boldly declared that was the title founded by his ancestor, when he entered England with William the Bastard, so by that, he intended to preserve his lands.

a parcel of land in Plumberow that had been the property of a free man. These three manors were afterwards divided into five or six. The manor of Hockley, and subject to it the manor of Blounts, and that of Bawdwyns, Lower Hockley Hall, Little Hockley Hall, and Plumberow. In Domesday several mills are mentioned, one at Hockley Hall, one at Lower Hockley Hall, one at Plumberow, and another at Little Hockley Hall.

At the Conquest William de Bursigny held lands in the "manor of Hockley," of the church, viz., under the abbess and convent of St. Mary, at Barking. The estate continued in the abbey till the suppression when it came to the Crown. In 1539 Henry VIII. granted it to Thomas Lord Cromwell, upon whose attainder, after the matter of Ann of Cleves, it reverted to the Crown. Queen Mary, in 1557, granted it to Sir Richard Riche. From a terrier taken 19th Elizabeth, of the rental of Sir Robert Riche, Knight, Lord Riche, this manor was then in the tenure of the executors of Edmund Tirrell, deceased, and was worth £53 6s. 8d. per annum. It continued the property of the Riche family until the death of Charles, Earl of Warwick, in 1673, when it was allotted to one of the coheirs, Essex, second daughter of Robert, Lord Riche, who conveyed it to her husband Daniel, Earl of Nottingham. The Earl sold it to Robert Bristow, and the Hall has lately been disposed of by his descendant to the Warden, Fellows, and Scholars of Wadham College, Oxford, whilst the manor has been purchased by George Edward Digby and Alfred Wyatt Digby, solicitors, of Maldon.

"Blounts" is situate about half a mile from the church. It is first mentioned in 1453, when Richard Pakelesham, lord of Pakelesham Hall, held the manor of Blountes in Great Hokkele of the abbot of Barking. James Baker,* who died 6th January, 1569, held this

* See an account of the manor of Kents, in North Shoebury.

message, with 130 acres of land called Blunts, by the yearly rent of 26s. 8d., and 15 acres called Palmer's, by the rent of 2s. a year, all of the Lord Riche, as of his manor of Hockley. According to the court rolls of the honor of Rayleigh, we find that Mary, his wife, survived him, and took to husband Thomas Shaa, Esq. James Baker was succeeded in this estate by Henry, his son and heir, who held the same at the time of his decease 8th April, 1611, and left, by Abigail his wife, daughter of Sir Richard Saltonstall, of Ovington, three daughters, coheirs, Abigail, Judith, and Anne. He very much diminished his patrimony. The family lived at various periods at Southchurch and Bures-Giffard Hall. Within the present century this property belonged to John Scratton, of Prittlewell Priory, and is now in Sir Anthony Cleasby, Baron of the Exchequer, son of Stephen Cleasby, Esq., formerly a London merchant.

The mansion house of "Bawdewyns," now commonly called Bartons and Brandy-hole, lies in a bottom at the end of a lane near the river, in a direct line above a mile north of the church. The name first occurs in 1500, when Robert Yngoe, gentleman, who had lands also at Hawkwell, held this of the abbess of Barking by fealty and yearly rent of 26s. 8d. Mary, wife of John Strangman, of Hadley, was his heir. William Strangman, their son, held this manor of the Lord Rich, as of his manor of Hockley, by fealty. Bartholomew, his son and heir, left two sons, Robert and James. Dudley Fortescue, who married the widow of Bartholomew Strangman, died the 12th of September, 1604, possessed of this estate, leaving Daniel, his son, aged 14 years. It belonged afterwards to Richard Hopper, then to Thomas Holt, and descended as Clements-hall in Hawkwell, to the family of White. It now belongs to the daughters of the late Thomas Holt White, Esq.

"Lower Hockley-hall," so named from its situation,

stands about half a mile north-east from the Church. Although Salmon treats this as identical with Little Hockley-hall, and Morant considers the latter one and the same with Plumberow, we shall presently show that these writers were in error. These three manors are distinctly recorded in Domesday, and as before stated a mill existed on each of them, and in the records of the Honor of Rayleigh, to which these historians probably had not access, we find the two latter separately treated of. This was one of the manors which Suene had in this parish, and which Pagan held under him at the time of the survey.* Suene's grandson, Henry de Essex, through his cowardice, forfeited the estate to the Crown. Morant surmises it was next in John de Kokeham, for he held in 1274 of Amabilia, wife of Thomas Fitz-Aucher, 360 acres of arable and marsh land in Hokele in fee farm, by the service of 6l. and 40s. rent of assize and suit at the hundred court of Rochford, and 18d. yearly for hidage. Laurence de Hardell was his cousin and next heir. He held here 30 acres of arable of John de Sandon by the service of a clove gilliflower. Johanna Ingaldsthorpe, at the time of her decease, 21st June, 1495, held this manor of the king. Isabella, her only daughter and heir, who predeceased her, left five daughters, who were her coheirs. One of them, Elizabeth, married first to Thomas Lord Scrope, and

* The following account is given in T. C. Chisenhale Marsh's translation of Domesday, published in 1864. Chapter 89, "Lower Hockley Hall, in Hockley. *Hacheleia* is held by Paganus of Suene." Chapter 86, "Little Hockley Hall, in Hockley. *Hocheleia* is held by two Frenchmen of Suene. Godeboldus holds 1 hide, and Odo xxx acres." Chapter 75, "Manor of Plumberow or Plumbergh, in Hockley. In Plumberga Ranulfus holds of William xxx acres, which were held by 1 free man in the time of King Edward. He claims this land as an exchange for lands in Normandy." Chapter 89, "Manor of Plumberow, in Hockley. *Plumberga* is held by Ascelinus of Suene; it was held by Robert, the son of Wimarce, for a manor and for 1 hide." The William here spoken of in this note was William de Warren, on whom William the Conqueror conferred the Earldom of Surrey, with estates in XII counties, and to whom he gave his daughter Gundreda in marriage. In Domesday the returns of the bordars, serfs, teams, beast, and bees in these manors, show them to be separate and divided.

afterwards to Sir Henry Wentworth, died in possession of this estate 30th of September, 1515. Her heirs were her sisters, Margaret, wife of Sir John Mortimer, Lucy, wife of Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam, and Anne, wife of Adrian Fortescue and John Huddleston.* This was one of the estates which Henry VIII assigned to Anne of Cleves for her maintenance. Some time ago it belonged to — Thickness, and came among his five daughters, one of whom was married to the Rev. Mr. Hotchins, of Romford. Morant states it belonged afterwards to Robert Bristow. If this is correct, it has been alienated long ago. Morant, in summing up, tells us that "Mr. Charles Phillips has lands here," probably this, as it was in a Mr. Phillips at the close of the last century, who married a Miss Clarke. She survived him many years, and lived at Chelmsford. Their only child, a son, was drowned at sea, whilst out sailing. Upon her death the estates came to Mr. Phillips's nephew, John Roberts Spencer, who took the name of Phillips. He married Anna Maria, eldest daughter of the late Sir John Tyrell, Bart., who has been dead some years. His seat is Riffham's Lodge, Danbury.

When Arthur Young wrote his "Survey of Essex," this farm was tenanted by Philip Hicks, a Suffolk man, who came from a farm at Waldingfield, near Lavenham. He informed Young "his system was the four course, that in four years he never got four quarters of wheat per acre, although he had laid out £2000 in draining and manuring, that in one year he carried 4000 loads of earth, &c., and laid 1000 loads of chalk and earth on 11 acres." Chalking seems to have been the rage, for we are informed that Mr. Barrington, near Rochford, together with his father, had chalked 1000 acres at 40 cart loads per acre. These figures are so large, that there are those who

* John Huddleston was probably the son of Isabell, another sister, who was wife of Sir William Hodilston.

doubt their accuracy, Hicks's farm was heavy and tenacious. He was much employed in valuing, and died in 1842, aged 74, and is buried in Hockley churchyard, which event is engraved on a stone. His son, Philip, who succeeded him in the occupation, retired to Baddow some years ago.

"Little Hockley Manor and Hall" are mentioned in Domesday under the title of Hocheleia, when they were held by Suene, who had under him two Frenchmen named Godbold and Odo. From records extracted from the manuscript books of the Chamberlain of the Honor of Rayleigh, compiled by John Cook, gent., steward of Richard Lord Ryche, containing documents, &c., from the time of Henry III,* we glean that this manor,† formerly the property of Edward de Sutton, together with land called "Portiayes," consisting of 35 acres, both being parcels of the manor of Plumberow, was in John Cutt, son of Sir John Cutt. The latter died seized of it in 1520, and his son John in 1528, when it became the property of John Wentworth. The next owner was Henry Aveson or Avetson, of London, gentleman. This Aveson's will is transcribed *in extenso* in the above documents (page 899.) It is dated the 1st day of April, 1580, and after reciting that he had, by deed indented, conveyed all his land, tenements, and hereditaments, including Little Hockley Manor and Portiayes to John Ffrikenham, George White,§ William

* The two books relating to this honor that we have examined, which extend to the reign of James I, contain nearly 2,000 pages of closely written manuscript, and we have reason to suppose that more exist, as there are records of a third, consisting of 362 pages, described, from the character of the handwriting, as about the time of King James I, which contains amongst other matter the following particulars, "The names of all Kings, Queens, Dukes, Dutchesses, Marquises, Earls, Countesses, Barons, and Knights, who have been the several owners of the said Honor of Rayleigh. The value of a Knight's fee, and parts of a fee. The names of the Bailiffs of the honor of a Knight's fee. The names of the Bailiffs of the Honor of Rayleigh, beginning 19 Edw. 3, and ending in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

† Page 146.

§ George White, of Hutton.

Plater, William Weston,* and Edmond Palmer, for the only use of himself during his natural life, and after his decease to the use and behalf of his executors for and during the term of 15 years, and after that term to the use and behalf of Thomas Tyrrell, son of William Tyrrell, late of Hearne, he alters his former disposition, and requests George White and William Weston to sell his estate, and pay unto Thomas Tyrrell the sum of five hundred marks, when he shall attain the age of 21 years. Tyrrell was likewise to have "one standinge cuppe of sylver, with a cover double gylte, one little sylver salt, a stone pot with a cover and a foote of sylver gylte, one little goblett with a cover parcel† gylte, and eleven spoones." He nominated the Right Worshipful Sir John Petre, Knight, overseer of this his last will. There are various bequests to relations, of whom Robert Ffawcett, of Sedberye, was his brother-in-law, Margery Blande, widow, his sister, and Christian Seven, his sister's daughter. Thomas Blande, a saddler in London, and Richard Lunde have likewise legacies. In consequence of Avesons dying without legitimate heirs of his body, this will was declared void, in consequence of a statute then in force, affecting the feudal tenure of land, held of the King *in capite*, and power of disposition. The estate was afterwards alienated to Francis Farre or Farrowe, who possessed it in the time of James I. This manor, together with the Hall, cannot now be identified. It probably became blended with other property or has another name. At the time we write of, it was one of the manors subject to the lawless court, but at the present period all vestiges are obliterated.

The manor of "Plumberow," otherwise named "Plumbergh," is another manor, and a considerable hamlet or village in the southern part of this parish.

* Possibly of the family of Weston, of West Tilbury Hall.

† That is partly gilt, but "parcel gilt," is a well understood term in goldsmith's work.

As already shown, it included within its boundaries, the manor of Little Hockley and Portyayes, or Portiayes land. In Edward the Confessor's time it belonged to Robert, son of Wimarce.* At the survey it was held by Ascelinus, of Suene, and 30 acres were held by Ranulphus, of William de Warenn. The latter claimed this in exchange for territory in Normandy. An ancient family, residing here, took from hence the surname of de Plumbergh. In 1210 Thomas de Plumbergh held two fees, in Plumbergh and Sutton, of the honor of Rayleigh. John de Stodham, who died in 1264, held in the vill of Plumbe, besides the manor of Great Sutton, 67 acres of arable and 12 of wood. In 1304, William Cosyn, and Emma his wife, are recorded as holding this manor, but two years after John de Stodham enfeoffed. John Abell, and Margaret, his wife, afterwards had the manor, which was holden of the King, *in capite*, as of the honor of Rayleigh. He had three daughters, Joane, Margaret, and Catherine. Joane was married to William le Vaghan, who in 1350 had two parts of this manor in her own right. The whole was afterwards in Sir Thomas Vaughan. Hamo was his son and heir, who left a daughter Alianor. A family named Heryng next had it. From the record of the honor of Rayleigh† we derive, that some time after William de Vaghan, it was in Thomas Skinner, who was succeeded by William Totham, then by William Tyrell,§ John Tyrell, Jasper Tyrell, Edmund Tyrell, and Edmund Church.‡ In the reign of James I. it was owned by Edward Allen. George Chevely of Roxwell afterwards possessed it. In 1854

* The grandmother of Suene

† Book 2, page 487.

§ This William Tyrell by will dated 1470-1, charged the manor and tenement of Plumberow with the maintenance of a Priest and Schoolmaster in Bawreth. See that parish.

‡ Edmund Church was son of Mary, eldest daughter of Edmund Tyrell by John Church.

it belonged to Joachim Otte, of Barnstaple, Devonshire, formerly a stock broker in London. Walter Otte* was his nephew and heir. It has since been purchased by the Trustees of the late Richard Hudson for the children of Robert Morgan, formerly a carcase butcher in London, and Eliza Cardine Semper (formerly Hudson) his wife. This manor is now extinct. At the corner of a meadow about 50 rods to the north of the mansion is the celebrated hillock called Plumberow mount. The materials of which it is composed were evidently taken from the sides of the rising ground, which can be traced very clearly on the north. Some portion of this mound has been removed. The circumference at the base is 90 feet, at the summit 24 feet, and the height from the level ground also 24 feet. Its origin is conjectural. It may have been thrown up for the purpose of signals in connection with the "*Comes Littoris Saxonici*," or as a memento of Canute's victory. Historians have said very little about it, as it lies remote from all traffic. No record exists of its ever having been explored, and in answer to enquiries upon this subject, of a gentleman connected with the property, the reply was, "Never sir, except by a fox," alluding to Reynard selecting this tumulus for a burrow. Upon the top, the present tenant, Mr. Warren, has had constructed a summer house, at a cost of £25, capable of seating 14 persons. An imposing view is obtained from this eminence, from which can be discerned part of Kent, the Nore, the Blackwater river, and the main, whilst on the marshes across the Crouch can be dimly seen the barrows, which, like this, have been the subject of much discussion.

"Betts," a farm in the southern part of this parish, near land formerly comprising the Common, belongs to John Roberts Spencer Phillips.

"Lovedowns" was formerly in William Willan, a

* Walter Otte's eldest son Joachim married a daughter of the Rev. Edmund Henry Penny, Rector of Great Stambridge. They are both deceased, leaving two children, minors.

merchant, who resided at How Hatch, South Weald. One of his three daughters, Frances, married the Rev. C. A. Belli,* Vicar of South Weald. William Willan was succeeded in this estate by his son John James Willan, who died in 1869, and it is now in his grandson Frank Willan, of Whitchurch, near Reading.

"Hylands," near Beaches Common, formerly belonged to the Sly family. It was bequeathed by Mrs. Sly, relict of Thomas Sly, to her nephew Thomas Brewitt, of Down Hall, Rayleigh, who, failing male heirs, it reverted to his nephew John Brewitt, of Baddow, son of John Brewitt, of Bridge House, Wickford.

"Marions" belongs to Miss Brett, of Wakes Colne Place, Essex.

"Boxes" is the property of the Dean and Chapter of St. Pauls. There is a house and 14 acres, 3 roods, and 3 poles of land in this parish, and the estate extends into Rayleigh and Rawreth.

The President and Fellows of Sion College, London, have 61 acres, 3 roods, 12 poles of wood land, being part of "Beaches."†

"Rettendon and West Hanningfield parishes" have 21 acres, 2 roods, 31 poles of land, together with a cottage. This is a charity left by Richard Cannon, in 1605, who directed the rents to be distributed to the poor of those parishes every sabbath day, in bread. The Charity Commissioners report, that at Rettendon this is done every Sunday in half quartern loaves, after morning service, to all the poor parishioners, attending church, who apply for them, in equal shares. The other moiety of the bequest is distributed by the churchwardens of West Hanningfield every Sunday, under the personal superintendence of the rector. There is a list of recipients made by him and the

* See Paglesham and Prittlewell.

† For an account of this College and their property see Rawreth.

churchwardens, and those not at church lose their loaf.

"Lines" is the property of Captain Acklom, of 1, Royal Well Terrace, Cheltenham. His wife was a Vanderzee. It was formerly in Arabella Vanderzee, who married first Captain Swaine, and secondly her cousin, George Vanderzee, of South Shoebury.* She died childless.

Lord Rayleigh has two small farms near the Crouch river.

"Sheepcoates" has lately been sold by Robert Bristow to Benjamin William Cackett, of Hull Bridge.

"Christ's Hospital," London, has 15 acres and 27 poles of land, free of land tax.

"Clements Marsh," formerly in the Earl of Mornington, was sold by Earl Cowley to the present owner, William Andrews.

"Shepherds" was formerly the property of Francis Bannester, of Little Wakering, who died in 1805. He bequeathed it to his daughter, Sarah East. It is now the property of Mrs. Anne Watson, daughter of William Law, of Hockley Hall. Law died April 18th, 1843, and was buried at Rayleigh. It was at one time in John Alliston, solicitor, of Warnford Court, London.

"Cracknells" was at one time owned by John Poole, who died August 16th, 1809, aged 67. His wife, Mary, died in 1815, aged 68. Their son John afterwards had it, who deceased March 2nd, 1835, aged 54. He died suddenly in a fit, in one of the fields whilst sowing barley. His wife sold it, after his death, to the present owner, Benjamin William Cackett. Mrs. Poole was a Webster, from Lovedowns. These Pooles have monuments in the church-yard.

"Joslyns" consists of two closes of arable land, containing 15 acres, 2 roods, and 2 poles, formerly called Little Guards or Snares. This belongs to the

* This family is of Dutch extraction. One of them was a noted solicitor of Rochford.

poor of Rochford. It was left by will of Thomas Joslyn, bearing date 5th of March, 1604, and proved in the prerogative Court of Canterbury the 12th of December, 1606, whereby he gave this land to the poor people of Rochford, to be employed as follows, viz., "for the buying of wood, providing of houses, and to relieve the necessities of the most poor, aged, and distressed persons, and not to be applied for any other use. He likewise willed that the minister, and two churchwardens, and four of the most substantial men of Rochford should have the letting of the said lands, and the distributing of the yearly rent; and he further appointed the minister, and two churchwardens, and four of the most substantial men of Prittlewell, yearly to call the said parishioners of Rochford to an account, to see whether they have performed the same according to the intent above specified, and for recompense of their pains he willed that 10s. yearly out of the said land should be given them, to be distributed to the poor of Prittlewell, and his will was, if the parishioners of Rochford should not employ the same as above, that the land should go to the use of the poor of Prittlewell, to be employed as aforesaid, and if they did not perform his will, then the said land should be to the use of the poor of the parish where the land lay." His right heirs, under certain conditions, have the power once in five years to call the parishioners of Prittlewell to an account how they had performed that trust. This rent is applied in the purchase of coals, and distributed amongst the most deserving poor.

"Whitbreads,"* was so called after a family of that name, and since then became the residence and property of the Fulford family. Upon Thomas Fulford's death, in 1827, it was sold to Praed Wood,† of

* See Rayleigh.

† Praed Wood died at Kensington in February, 1870. He was buried in the family vault at Chelmsford. He was a man much respected, and one of his last acts was the gift of a handsome stained glass window for the tower of St. Mary's Church. He left the schools there a legacy of £200.

Chelmsford, who resold it to Robert Bristow. It has lately been purchased by John Baker,* of Hockley House.

"Woollastons" is charity land, which contains 36 acres, 1 rood, and $10\frac{1}{2}$ poles, in this parish, for an account of which the reader is referred to the parish of Ashingdon.

"Christ's College, Cambridge," has a house, a cottage, land, a wood, and kiln yard, altogether containing 20 acres, 1 rood, 31 poles.

Major Frith has a farm, called "Wards," near the old turnpike road. It was formerly in the Rev. Edward Cockayne Frith, of Bexley, Kent.

"Hanover" farm, near Cobington Hill, commonly called Coventry Hill, belongs to Cooper and three others.

"Goulds," adjoining the last, belongs to William Willat, of Farleigh Castle, Beckington, Somersetshire.

"Blacks," was formerly the property of James Windley, who sold it to Thomas Marriage, of Chelmsford, who presented it to his eldest daughter, Rebecca, upon her marriage with Isaac Brown, of Acworth, York, and was purchased by the present owner, Peter Porter, a nephew of Windley's, July 23rd, 1863. Peter Porter's wife Sophia, was a Waight, from Blunts. She died in 1861, aged 75 years, and is buried at Hockley.

"Seviers," called in the old rolls "Hawies, Fullers, Briants, and Duffields," upon which stands Hockley House, the residence of John Baker, was in the year 1707 the property of Robert Hackshaw, who was admitted upon the surrender of Elizabeth Nolins. It was mortgaged by him in 1736, to John Wells, who became owner in 1740. His heir, in 1753 was John Bond, who bequeathed it to the Rev. W. Ford. He was admitted in 1768. His son, John Ford, had it in 1784, and the widow of the latter, Elizabeth, in 1808.

* His first wife was Elizabeth, youngest daughter of William Smith, and his second is his cousin Ellen, daughter of Dr. Baker, of Maldon.

Upon the death of Elizabeth Ford, James Sevier, formerly a merchant at Bristol, who had married Ann Munsey Ford, their daughter, was enrolled owner in 1825. His son, John Ford Sevier, was admitted in 1838 as heir to his mother, and has lately disposed of this estate to his brother, the Rev. James Sevier, of Hasfield, Gloucestershire, who has enfranchised it. Bowden, mentioned in Canewdon, married his sister. Hockley House, which was built in 1840, stands in a remarkably healthy situation. The grounds command a most extensive prospect. From Brentwood in the west, the eye may range along the high ground by Stock and Danbury to the country north of the Blackwater, as far as Mersea Island. And again, along the Kentish coast, from Margate Church, which is distinctly seen in a clear day, to the Reculvers and Herne Bay, and the nearer heights of the Isle of Sheppey.

In the garden of this residence is preserved some interesting stone work, formerly part of Hull Bridge.* It was found amongst the debris in the bed of the river, in 1863, and consists of a finial, highly ornamented, apparently intended to represent a rose and probably graced the parapet. Near it is part of an arch of a door or window in the Tudor style, which was dug up at Blounts, under the foundation of a stable. Some clue may be gained as to the period of the erection of this bridge, by consulting the will of John Tyrrell, of Beeches, in Rawreth, proved in 1494, which says, "Item, I bequeth to the making of the lane agenst Gatwards v li. that is my keping of Alson Scots. Item, I bequeth to the making of hulbrigge† in Essex xl^s for master Gryffith soule." Amongst other rem-

* More material of the same is to be seen embedded in a wall belonging to B. W. Cackett. near the Ferry.

† This bridge is laid down in Sudbury and Humbles map in 1608. In the centre of the river, about 4 rods from the crossing, on the east side, is a dangerous hole, called the Sump; this is thought to have been caused by the rush of water through the arch of the bridge.

nants of the olden time, a bronze spear head, said to be Roman, and the breech end of an old musket have been found embedded in the mud where this bridge existed. The latter was found under one of the largest stones, and had the initials O. C. underneath, thus strengthening the tradition that the bridge was destroyed during the civil wars. This relic has been stolen from the proprietor, Mr. Cackett, but he relates an almost incredible circumstance respecting it, that having occasion to clean it, he discovered some powder therein, which upon being thrown upon the fire exploded. Cromwell's request to his troops "to keep their powder dry" was in this instance verified.

Near this bridge was the saltcote or salt house of John Creke,* "weller," of Hockley. In his will dated 28th March, 1547, after leaving 3s. 4d. to the High Altar, of Hockley, and to the same Church 6s. 8d. he gives to Thomas Creke, his son, his "saltcote and four ledde belonging to the said salthouse, with all other implements as a weller should have, but no salte." The leads are obviously the pans in which the sea water underwent the process of evaporation, and this manufacture was extensively carried on during the middle ages. Salt was unknown in a fossil state before the 17th century. Indications of these salt cotes or salt pits are still to be found extending from this point to Paglesham. Creke left his "wyff, a seame and a half of whet, half a seame of malte, half a barell of butter, halfe a way of cheyse, upon condition that she depart from the house after his decease, or betweene this and Michaelmas, but if she remayne there untill Michaelmas, then her legacy of whet, malte, butter, and chese to be voide, and of none effect." The final clause was a curious one, "that eche of my sones shal be ruled by the th'other, and yf any of them be stubborn or sturdy and will

* His will is given *in extenso* by H. W. King, Esq., in his notices of ancient wills, in the Transactions of the Essex Archæological Society.

not be ruled by his brethren and myne ov'seres shall forfitt £10 to his bretheren, of his parte of goods, as my will is." Some subsequent legal proceedings respecting this will, disclose a document which seems to fix a time when a bridge was actually extant over the Crouch, at Hullbridge. In a view of frank pledge taken (temp. Eliz.) we find that John Creke held a tenement called le Swanne, lying near "Whulbridge, and a messuage with appurtenances situate and lying near le Swanne on one part, and a bridge there called Whulbridge on the other part, of which two tenements one was sunk." Gough likewise in his additions to Camden, says that the piles of a bridge remain in the Crouch at this place.

A narrow strip of good marsh land on the north side of the Crouch is within the boundaries of the parish. An ancient sea wall bounds this piece of land on the north, and it is limited on the north-east, by a creek which runs far up into the parish of Woodham Ferrers. According to the rental of the old rolls of the manor of Hockley Hall, dated "1634, John Appleton was then tenant of this property, and was fined for default in making fealty." At a court held in 1656, on the 3rd of July, John Deane, of Little Warley, and Dorothy his wife, surrendered a messuage called the "Swann," situate at "Wholmebridg," and also a messuage called "Solomans," situate between the tenement called the Swann and the bridg called Hullbridg, and also the ferry called Hullbridg Ferry, and certain marsh lands called Salmons, Whites, and *St. Thomas Hills*, containing by estimation 80 acres, and all other, &c., to the use of John Sharp, of Little Warley, husbandman, who is at this court admitted. In "1657 John Sharp surrenders to Sir Henry Appleton his heirs and assigns, who being present in person is admitted, and surrenders to the use of his will. The records in 1702 further state that Sir Henry Appleton formerly held that part of this parish which lies to the north of the

Crouch, and which then consisted of a marsh called "Normarsh and the Hills,"* the ferry house and salt marsh, also on the north side of Hullbridge, and which then contained altogether 80 acres and the ferry, as copyhold of Hockley Hall manor, at rents amounting to 20s. 7½d. Upon Sir Henry Appleton's death the property was seized into the Lord's hands for want of a tenant, and between 1711 and 1714 they were let to Robert Hackshaw,† who was the largest copyholder of the manor (and lived at the farm now called Seviars and Hockley House) at a rent of £7 10s. a year. A map made by W. Cole in 1714, now in the possession of the owner of Hockley Hall manor, shows that Hackshaw, at that date, gained from the seas by enclosure 147 acres, 3 roods, 39 poles, in addition to the 80 acres before mentioned, and that Hackshaw's enclosure was right and left as you pass the ferry from Hockley to Woodham, and was completely isolated from the original enclosure at the east end, and left saltings, and a creek called Haw Bush Creek between it, and what was formerly Appleton's property. The latter is called a salt marsh, upon which is marked *St. Thomas Hill*, and at the extreme end is a marsh called the "drownded marsh," (then belonging to Henry Pascall) the two being entirely surrounded by the Crouch on the south and east, by Saltcoate Creek, now called Clements Green Creek, on the north east, and Haw Bush Creek on the west. They had evidently been enclosed, but imperfectly, so as to be occasionally overflowed at high tides. Robert Hackshaw married a Miss Jane Buckle. Their only surviving child, a daughter named Jane, married Josiah Jeffreys, whose

* Or Mounds.

† Two gold rings of Hackshaw's, or Hawkshaw's, with the date 1735 and 1738 engraven thereon, are now in the possession of Charles Taylor, of Sutherland Street, London. Mr. Taylor, who uses the crest of a falcon or hawk, is descended maternally from Hackshaw. It is traditional in the family that his ancestor at one time resided at Turrett House, in Rayleigh parish.

daughter, Sarah Hackshaw Jeffreyes, was united to Isaac Taylor.* One John Wells, gent., took it in some way from Hackshaw. Wells died on or before 1753, when it became the property of his heir, Jonathan Bond, who mortgaged to Thomas Ford all his lands held of this manor. Ford became the owner under the forfeited conditional surrender,† and his descendant, the Rev. James Sevier, is now the owner.

Upon these marshes, and in the neighbourhood, are the celebrated mounds,§ respecting which there has been considerable controversy. Gough, who connected them with the great battle of Ashingdon, tells us that there were in his time "twenty-four barrows grouped in pairs, and most of them surrounded by a ditch." Numbers of these mounds have been removed since that period, or partially levelled, especially in those marshes now under the plough. Some of those still remaining in the grass marshes are twin barrows, and others single. One can trace where the earth has been taken for their formation, the holes being generally full of water and rough grass, but there are approaches to them on elevated ground which probably have nothing to do with their original construction, but have been subsequently made for the convenience of pasturage. The ditch belonging to the sea wall passes through one of them, disclosing a substance called moor log in the under stratum. The total number now remaining in Hockley is about 12. The one in Appleton's marsh is a double one, the others are either on Hackshaw's enclosure, or the intervening ground near Haw Bush Creek. In the 17th

* Hackshaw is mentioned by Morant in connection with the Lawless Court. See Rochford.

† Part of Hackshaw's enclosure, (about 32 acres) on the left as you cross the ferry to Woodham, has since been in Mark Lay, who sold it to the late Samuel Baker, of Hawkwell. The latter disposed of it to the late Mr. Sevier.

§ See Ashingdon and Canewdon. Barrows are called mounds in Scandinavia and Russia; cairns in Wales and Scotland.

century they were known as St. Thomas' Hills, thus pointing to the Pre-Reformation period. These tumuli were undoubtedly constructed on the saltings, and several are still extant higher up the country, on either side of Saltcoat Creek in Woodham Ferrers and Stow Maries. One is on Saltcoats adjoining the wall, and about 30 rods to the west is another on a different occupation. These two are in Woodham Ferrers and there is evidence of an old sea wall between them with traces of the creek. On the other side of Clements Green Creek or Brandy Hole Creek (formerly called Saltcoat Creek) in Stow Marsh, on a farm called Hogwells in Stow Maries, are three large ones on grass marshes. Two of them are from 20 to 30 rods from the sea wall, and from 10 to 15 rods apart; about 20 rods more inland stands another, and the water evidently in old times ran between the two former and the latter. This last has been partly carted away, but nothing was found. They are situated above a mile from the Crouch. In recent times Lord Braybrooke and other antiquaries have doubted the antiquity of these mounds, and Sir Charles Nicholson in a paper contributed by him in the *Essex Archæological Journal*, in 1869, has followed in their wake. Sir Charles's researches in company with John Evans, F.S.A., and J. W. Flower, F.S.A., are so far of importance, as he tells us that "the whole of the outer coating for about two feet consisted of hard sun-dried clay, below which we came upon a mass of soft mud interspersed with nodules of red burnt clay, and large quantities of sea weed still apparently quite fresh.* On reaching the level of the plane (or rather terrace) on which the mound was formed, we found the surface strown with a quantity of this same red burnt brick

* This freshness of sea weed would continue for centuries. See Rushley Island and South Shoebury, where upon boring wells remains of plants have been discovered, whose genera could be clearly distinguished after the probable lapse of thousands of years.

earth, affording indications of a large fire having been on the spot, as there were several fragments of charred wood." Sir Charles goes on to tell us "that in the *very centre* of the mound we opened we came upon two large pieces of rough pottery very like what is in use at the present day." Upon these slender grounds Sir Charles concludes they are of modern origin, hastily thrown up for defence against any enemy entering the Crouch. We may remark upon these conclusions of Sir Charles' and Mr. Evan's, that we have authentic records of their existence in 1656, and it is singular that no one at a former period should have referred to these mounds, if modern, as being in course of construction. The formation as shown by Sir Charles proves they were constructed on the saltings. The indications of a large fire does not militate against our opinion formerly expressed, of the burning of the dead slain in the great battle, and with reference to "the two pieces of rough pottery, very like what is in use at the present day," the reader is now informed that two cottages formerly existed near this particular mound, and the probability is, these were broken vessels that got mixed with the debris. Besides which this is not the first time some of these mounds have been opened, and in reclosing them, after antiquaries have retired, some facetious wights may have thrown in the pottery described. It may be possible that remains which would throw more light upon these constructions are to be found by exploring beneath the level of the plane upon which they are raised. There seems an improbability that artillery should be placed on or behind mounds* upon unenclosed saltings, unapproachable by land, with no shelter for troops, whilst some of the mounds are at so great a distance from the river that guns of that period would be out of range.

* Some have thought these hills were thrown up as a refuge for stock during high tides.

"High Elms" was formerly the property of Thomas Sly, of Rochford Hall, who retired to Baddow, where he died, and was buried February 8th, 1779, and left this estate to his wife, Mary Elizabeth Sly,* who was interred with her husband May 14th, 1808. She bequeathed it to her nephew, John Fitch, then tenant, who died in 1840. This family date from an early period, and claim descent from the Fytches, of Canfield Hall, who were related to the family of Wiseman, of Felstead. Some of the Fytch's were knights and baronets, which latter title became extinct *circa* 1736. William Fytch in the 17th century owned Danbury Place, Woodham Walter Hall, and the manor of Fingrith, in Blackmore. He took down the once splendid mansion of Woodham Walter Hall, the ancient seat of the noble families of Fitzwalter and Radcliffe, and divided the park, consisting of 900 acres, into farms. Many of the Fytch family are here interred, and likewise at Danbury, where a very old escutcheon of one of them still exists. The Disneys, of the Hyde, Ingatestone, are descended from this family through Elizabeth, daughter of William Fytch, governor of Bengal. The first of this family known in Hockley was Thomas Fitch who was born at Fingrith Hall, Blackmore, which he left upon his marriage to reside at High Elms. He is said to have been the first who spelt the name Fitch,† and he had an old escutcheon long preserved at High Elms, bearing the ancient arms of the family, which are "Vert, a chevron between 3 leopard's faces. Or." This Thomas Fitch, called "handsome Tom Fitch," married twice. His first wife was a Miss Riley, aunt to Jesse Newcombe, of Orsett, who died childless.

* She was youngest daughter of Thomas Brewitt, of Crow's Heath, and sister of Mrs. Thomas Fitch.

† The name was formerly spelt Fytche and Ffytche. Ffrancis Ffytche, and Margaret his wife, were owners of the manor of North Bemflete Hall, temp Eliz. (See the manuscript of Rayleigh honor.)

His second was a widow named Elizabeth Waight,* of Blunts, in this parish. He was churchwarden of Hockley for 42 years, farmed the great tithes of the parish, and died at High Elms, July 21, 1799, aged 68. His wife Elizabeth died August 22nd, 1797, aged 78. He had two sons, Thomas and *John*, who in 1795, during a severe frost, walked over the water at Hullbridge on the ice at high water, and on February 4th, of the same year, a horse and cart went over at the same place on the ice at half channel. The eldest son, Thomas Fitch, was drowned February 9th, 1783, aged 21 years. This unhappy event took place in the river Crouch between Cricksea and Fambridge Ferry, when returning in his yacht from a pleasure excursion to Burnham. His body was found after 9 weeks immersion, and an expenditure of £500 for dragging the river opposite Raypits, on April 13th, and buried under his father's pew on Good Friday, April 18th. *John*, his brother, was born at High Elms on the 19th of August, 1768, and married Etheldreda† Barnard from Brick House, Beaches Common. He was churchwarden for 40 years, and died May 29th, 1840, aged 71 years. The vestry at Hockley was built over the family vault in 1854, and there is an inscription on the wall referring to their right of sepulture. The entrance to this vault is from the outside. He had 16 children, 8 of whom are buried in this place. He sold High Elms, the bequest of Mrs. Sly, in 1827, to William Truston, a grocer of Brentwood, who married a sister of Thomas Laver, of Prittlewell Temple. Miss Truston married Charles

* This lady married three times; her maiden name was Elizabeth Brewitt, of Crows Heath, Downham, and she married from there to — Geoffrey or Jeffrey; her second husband was — Waight, of Blunts, by whom she had two children, a son and a daughter. The daughter, Elizabeth Waight, married Robert Laver, father of Thomas Laver, of Prittlewell Temple.

† Etheldreda Barnard was born 10th April, 1773. Her father was a Quaker, who removed from Woodham Mortimer to Beaches Common. He married twice, Etheldreda being his daughter by his second wife, a Miss Cooper, from Danbury.

Teissier Master, formerly of Saffron Walden, and now of Rollesby Hall, near Norwich, (late the residence of Joseph Hume,) who has this estate for life, with reversion to his daughter, the wife of Maurice Bird, a grandson of William Hilton, of Danbury. The house was partly pulled down after John Fitch left it, and a new frontage erected.

The "Bull Inn" and "Anchor" belong to J. A. Hardcastle. At the rear of the Bull Inn are extensive woods; one called the Bull Wood, formerly Bristow's, but recently sold to Browne Webb, a grocer in London. Another known as Great Hawkwell Wood, being situate in that parish, was sold at the late sale of the Bristow property to the late Mr. Baker, and is now in his son John. About the centre is an oak tree of most singular natural formation, called the double tree, which divides near the root into two trunks,* and again unites about four feet from the ground. The opening, large enough for the passage of children, is about two feet wide, and has been frequently visited by the curious, some of whom have left their names cut rudely on the bark. The neighbourhood of this tree was believed at one time by the weak and credulous to be haunted, as being at, or near the spot, where a woman is said to have killed her child, and during the night noises were heard resembling "Oh mother, mother, don't kill me." People used to assemble to listen to "the shrieking boy," many from long distances, and when followed the voices used to retreat. A certain ventriloquist had the credit of amusing himself in this vicinity, and there were others who occasionally trafficked upon the fears of the superstitious. One man actually dragged a pond in hopes of elucidating the mystery. At length the originator of this disturbance was shot, being no other than a horned owl, a bird well known to emit cries similar to the human voice.

* For the severance of the trunks of ash trees for superstitious purposes, see South Shoebury.

White in his natural history of Selborne, speaking of owls, says, "all that clamorous hooting appears to me to come from the wood kinds, and I have known a whole village up in arms from the snore and hisses of the white owl, imagining the churchyard to be full of goblins and spectres. White owls also often scream horribly as they fly along; from this screaming, probably arose the common people's imaginary species of screech owl, which they superstitiously think attends the windows of dying persons."

"Foxfield," a small farm near the Drover's Arms, together with some pasture land about the town of Rayleigh, formerly comprising part of the park, was in the Cockerton family for more than 100 years, and was acquired by Richard Hust, of Sutton, upon his marriage with Cockerton's widow in 1706. It was left by William Cockerton, of Sutton, in 1815, to his nephew, the late Robert Laver, since whose death it has been purchased by George Edward Digby, solicitor, of Maldon.

The Common originally consisted of about 12 acres. Major Carr enclosed about 2 acres nearly sixty years ago, and afterwards sold it to George Rule, whose father had converted it to a nursery garden that still bears his name. Charles Lark is now the owner. The enclosure of the whole was completed about thirty years since, when some was added to Inefers, a small farm adjoining, and Noble Parker, George Belcham, and Thomas Stebbing each got a slice.

The portion of Sudbury's* charity due to this parish consists of £1 per annum, derived from land in Hawkwell. This money used to be expended in the purchase of bread, and given to the poor twice in a year at the church on Sunday, but is now devoted to the use of the parochial school.

* See Hawkwell and Eastwood.

There are 4 acres, 3 roods, and 30 poles of meadow land near Greensward Lane, belonging to Hockley and Rayleigh parishes, called "Poor's land." It appears from the parliamentary returns of 1786, that a donor unknown gave to this parish land, which was then vested in Jonathan Vale, and producing 10s. a year. This croft, situate near Marylands Wood, contained by estimation 2 acres, 2 roods, which was exchanged by deed in 1794, by the churchwardens and overseers of Hockley and Rayleigh for the land above mentioned, which was then in two enclosures that had formerly been wood-land, and was then seized by the Rev. Charles Phillips. The proportion of rent payable to this parish used to be laid out by the churchwardens, with the consent of the vicar, in each year, in the purchase of coals, bread, or articles of clothing, and distributed by them amongst poor, aged, and deserving persons in this parish, according to the number of each family, but it is now applied in aid of the school.

"Lost Charity." It appears by the parliamentary returns of 1786, that a donor unknown gave a rent-charge of £1 a year to the poor of this parish, which was then vested in Mr. Bannister. The Charity Commissioners report they could obtain no information respecting this donation, and it is not known that the poor ever received any benefit from it.

There was formerly an almshouse for two dwellers standing near Whitbreads, but it had no endowment. It was sold by the parish to the late Mr. Fulford, and the proceeds of this, and the amount realized by the sale of the old workhouse near the toll-gate, was expended in the purchase of a house and land adjoining the church-yard, for the sum of £223, of Mr. Fitch. This was in 1811. The parish sold this property to Dr. John Grabham, and it is now in the possession of Wadham College.

"Hockley Spa." The medicinal waters of this well

were discovered about 1838 by Robert Clay* and Letitia his wife. The latter being asthmatic, by its use lost her cough, and was in a considerable degree improved in her general health. They had formerly long resided at Cheltenham, and probably it was to a change of air and locality, that they were in some measure indebted for their restoration. This cure being noised abroad, and coming to the ears of the proprietor, a London solicitor named Fawcett, he engaged the services of Richard Phillips to analyse the water. He reported that it contains four ingredients, "common salt, bi-carbonate of lime, sulphate of magnesia, or Epsom salts, and sulphate of lime." It contains no iron, or any ingredients that can militate against its use in inflammatory complaints. Dr. Granville considered the waters efficacious in cases of children suffering from want of ossification of the bones, and those who were inclined to have ricketty and bandy legs, and for dyspeptic disorders. In consequence of these reports of its salubrious nature, the proprietor expended in 1842 large sums in the erection of a pump-room, &c., and the opening was celebrated with a public breakfast. Subsequently an hotel at a heavy cost was erected. These speculations turned out very unremunerative. At one time vans ran to London with fresh supplies of this water, but its intended benefits were not appreciated, and the public refused its patronage. The whole has now a dilapidated appearance, the hotel has since been let at £10 per annum as a beer-shop, and the unfortunate Spa room is used as a Baptist Chapel. Upon the site of the Hotel was formerly a cottage inhabited by William Hazard, who died in 1808, aged 105, whose life was probably prolonged to this advanced period by the beneficial influences before enumerated.

* There is a stone in Hockley churchyard to Robert Clay, who died July 29th, 1843, aged 72 years, and to Letitia Case Clay, his wife, who died February 11th, 1847, aged 68 years.

An amusing story is told in connection with this Spa to the following effect. A gentleman of considerable standing in Dengie Hundred, having for some time been in declining health, and entertaining a high opinion of the healing properties of this spring, with a view of getting the water fresh, used to send his servant at regular intervals for this beverage, and after several months supposed trial considered himself essentially better and recruited in all respects, when the discovery was made that John not having the same faith as to its properties as his master, or disliking an irksome journey, used to fill his bottle at a nearer pump, in the meantime regaling himself with XX at the Hawk, at Battles Bridge, until the time his master anticipated his return with the life giving elixir.

The quality of the oak timber in this parish varies considerably. Beaches wood is superior, and from this, many of the piles (being each a tree) were derived, for the support of the Pier at Southend, which have now stood the test of endurance for more than 35 years. The Bull wood, although it has some red in it and inclined to be sappy, is tough, and sought after for wheelwright's work. The underwood of these two woods is valuable. Marylands, Hockley Hall, and Blunts produce good carpenter's stuff.

In Gough's Camden's Brit. is to be found a notice of rare plants found in this hundred. He mentions the "*Lathyrus hirsutus* as found in the fields about Hockley, Rayleigh, and elsewhere." This is a rough podded vetchling and very rare, almost, if not entirely confined to South Essex. It has been found likewise at Rawreth and Hadleigh. The "*Bumas Cakile*, or Sea Rocket, on the shore in Canvey Island." This *Cakile maritima* grows likewise on the sea shore by Southend, Shoebury, and in various other places. The "*Hippophae Rhamnoides* on sandy sea shores near Canvey Island." This is the sea Buckthorn, that grows on sand hills and cliffs in several places on the

southern coast. The "*Fucus Cartilagineus*, scarlet Fucus, on rocks and stones; in Canvey Island, and in Maldon river over against Tollesbury."

The National School, situated near the Church, was built during the incumbency of the Rev. William Harding, in 1840, on a portion of the vicarage glebe, called the Pightle, conveyed for that purpose by the vicar to himself and others as trustees. There is a Chapel at Hull Bridge, in which occasional services are performed, which is also used as a school room for the little children of that part of the parish, and for a night school during the winter months. The building was erected by subscription in 1856, chiefly through the exertions of the Rev. John Harding,* who was at that time curate in charge of the parish. About the same time the wooden Chapel on the Common, which had been built in 1842, on the ground of Thomas Merryfield, of Hockley, as a place of meeting for Dissenters, was engaged for use in connection with the Church. Divine Service has generally been performed there on Sunday evenings, alternately with the service at Hull Bridge, and a night school has sometimes been conducted there. These arrangements were made in consequence of the church, although central, being at a considerable distance from the population on either side.

The Church, dedicated to St. Peter, is supposed by some historians to have been the same fabric mentioned by Simeon Dunelmensis, as having been founded by Canute and Turkill the Danes, in memory of the victory gained over Edmund Ironside in the battle of Ashingdon, but for which there does not appear sufficient foundation. It consists of a nave with aisle, a chancel, and a low massive west tower, from which rises a slender wooden spire. The edifice is of

* The Rev. John Harding was no relation to the vicar of that name. He was a man much esteemed in the parish, and had formerly been engaged as a Missionary in Travancore.

the early English period, dating probably about the close of the 12th century, with alterations and insertions in later styles. The nave and north aisle are divided by four early pointed gothic arches, sustained by short massive circular columns with diversely foliated capitals. When the Church was repaired a few years ago the shafts of the columns having been divested of numerous coats of whitewash were found to be decorated with painting in distemper, but it is said that the subjects or designs could not be distinguished. On the south side of the nave are three windows in the perpendicular style; the middle one is original, and the others are modern insertions. Under one of them upon a brass plate is engraven in old English characters, the following inscription; "This window was erected by the Rev. William Harding, vicar of this church, in memory of his beloved wife, A.D. 1844." In the north wall of the aisle are two early windows, one plain, the other trefoiled, and at the east end is also a small pointed window like the last, in the centre of which six diamond shaped quarries are of yellow stained glass, adjusted in the form of a cross. Upon each of the four forming the stem, is "*Deus*" in old English characters, and upon two others forming the arms the word "*ictus*."* One roof spans both nave and aisle. The east window of the chancel with stone mullions, corresponding with one remaining in the body of the Church was inserted by Wadham College, in 1842, and was filled with modern pattern glass, placed in it by subscription among Mr. Harding's friends at Oxford and elsewhere. The Chancel, and the whole body of the Church were repewed at the same time. The north and south walls of the chancel had each of them windows concealed beneath the

* *Deus ictus*, that is God stricken, God pierced, or God slain. It remains an open question whether this glass was inserted before or after the Reformation. This might be ascertained by turning up the lead, as mediæval glazing quarries are not cut with a diamond, but shaped with nippers.

plaster, one of these, a plain Norman window, was opened in 1849, and being glazed with tinted quarries has added greatly to the effect of the chancel. Upon the south side is an exceedingly diminutive Priests' door. The tower at the west end of the nave, also of the early English period, is square for the first seventeen feet above the ground, with walls of great thickness, chiefly of flint, chalk, and rubble. Above the square part it is octagonal for nineteen feet more to the top of the battlemented parapet. The whole is crowned with a boarded spire eighteen feet in height. A pointed arch of elegant proportion opens into it from the nave, but it is obscured by masonry and an ugly gallery. The first part of the ascent is by a narrow stair, carried up in the thickness of the north wall. From this, access is obtained to the interior by a small triangular headed opening, which might almost pass for Saxon in its form. The bell chamber contains three bells. Upon the first is "Miles Graye made me 1626." The middle one has "James Bartlet made me 1684. Benjamin Symmons, churchwarden." It is likewise ornamented with three bells on the rim. The third has "1657 John Branard. Jervase Grove. John Hodson made me. W. and H. churchwardens." An entrance from the bell chamber leads to the parapet, from whence looking down upon the roof one may see that the nave and chancel are not quite in line. There is a deflection in the latter thought to be symbolic of our Lord's attitude when hanging on the cross. The tower, like the rest of the structure, has undergone alteration subsequent to its erection. The parapet is embattled, and an ogee headed doorway has been inserted in the west wall enriched with cusping, crockets and finial, but having been built of soft stone it is now greatly decayed and mutilated. The fragments of the ancient font lie in the belfry, comprising an octangular basin of unusually great capacity and portions of the shaft and plinth. Two plain shallow

pointed arches are worked on each face of the basin,* which was originally supported by a central shaft with eight smaller columns gathered round it, There was formerly a large stone in the chancel with a cross upon it, and an inscription signifying that it was the last resting place of William de Codewell, Rector. According to the register of the diocese he died in 1326. The oldest tombs in the church-yard are those of the Richman family. There are two stones recording that Elizabeth, the wife of William Richman, died the 27th April, 1711, aged 45, and Elizabeth, the daughter of William and Elizabeth Richman, March 26th, 1714, aged 15 years. One to Elizabeth, the wife of Jonathan Clemence, of this parish, who departed this life 3rd September, 1719, in the 28th year of her age. There is one standing in the belfry, with this inscription, "Here lyeth the body of George Benton, late of this parish, who departed this life 5th December, 1719, in the 48th year of his age." To Cordelia Atridge, mother of Jeremiah Kersteman, who died in 1775, aged 77. To Sarah Lant, wife of William Lant, who died January 16th, 1803, aged 66. To Edward Lant, son of William and Sarah Lant, November 28th, 1797. These Lants lived at Lovedowns. To Elizabeth Creasy, who died in 1817. There are several stones to the Pissey family, who held Bawdewyns. To John Pissey, who died March 16th, 1791, aged 61. To Martha his wife, April 2nd, 1795, aged 73. To Ann, their daughter, in 1776, aged 18. To Daniel Pissey, who died in 1814, aged 54, and Sarah, his wife, in 1819, aged 57. To Joseph Bailey Pissey, their son, September 3rd, 1818, aged 20 years. To Charles Murrell, who, in 1808, aged 11 years, was lost in a heavy gale of wind in the swin, being washed from the deck of his father's vessel, and his body being found

* For years the sacrament of baptism has been performed in a wooden bowl set on a pedestal, of which there were, in 1848, three other examples in the hundred. Some have since been replaced by fonts of stone.

at Harwich was here interred. In the middle of the path leading to the porch lies a slab over the remains of William Waight, dated 1791, who is said to have given directions to be interred in that situation on the ground, that as he had always been trampled upon all his life, he wished, when dead, similar treatment. A stone to Thomas Waight, September 9th, 1809, aged 35 years, also of Susanna his daughter. To William Higby, May 20th, 1855, aged 56 years. He held a farm on the common. To Sarah Belcham, many years resident in this parish, May 29th, 1811, aged 68. To Isaac Belcham, late of Rochford, who died in 1822. To Hezekiah Parker, many years resident, January 13th, 1807, aged 75 years; also of Rachel Dowsett, wife of George Dowsett, daughter of the above, March 2nd, 1837. To James Fitch, late of this parish, 15th November, 1813, aged 78 years, also to Mary, his wife, who died 21st May, 1810, aged 65. This family were no relations to the Fitch's of High Elms. To Samuel Baker, late of this parish, who departed this life the 18th of March, 1819, aged 64 years. Also of Sarah Baker, who died the 6th of March, 1829, aged 88 years. This Samuel Baker was uncle of Samuel Baker, of Hawkwell Hall. He formerly farmed Jarvis Hall, in South Bemfleet, and married, April 29th, 1783, Sarah Hubbard, widow, at Hawkwell Church. He came from Tiverton in Devonshire, and was the first of the family who was located in these parts. At the south-east corner are stones to Samuel, son of Samuel and Jane Baker, who died 10th November, 1831, aged 21 years, also of Jane, the wife of Samuel Baker, (and mother of the above) who died May 3rd, 1863, aged 82 years, also of Samuel Baker, of Hawkwell Hall, who died May 8th, 1868, aged 85 years. This Samuel Baker, of Hawkwell Hall, began life by farming Clements Marsh, the grass land of which he broke up, and laid the foundation of future prosperity by growing coriander, carraway, and other

seeds. He was at one period much employed as a valuer, apportioning many of the tithe commutations, and from his position, competence, and general knowledge, was frequently called to the chair at public meetings. His son Samuel, mentioned above, unfortunately lost his life from puncturing his finger whilst walking the hospitals. To Elizabeth, wife of John Baker, of this parish, who died April 22nd, 1864, aged 45 years, also of Elizabeth Audely, daughter of the above, who died June 20th, 1864, aged 18 years. There are two flat stones, surrounded by iron railings, to William Smith, second son of James and Hannah Smith, of Langford, in this county, who died March 17th, 1854, aged 60 years, also of Mary Ann Smith, wife of the above, and second daughter of the late William Audely, of Rayleigh, who died February 12th, 1868, aged 71; also of Rachel Audely, third daughter of William and Elizabeth Audely, of Rayleigh, November 19th, 1854, aged 56 years. William Smith at one time farmed Trinders, in Rawreth, and was at that period a politician of the advanced school, and an intimate friend of Dr. Rolph alluded to in Sir Francis Bond Head's, "Emigrant," as one of the leaders of the rebellion in Canada, previously to the burning of the Caroline, and who, after M^c Kensie's defeat, became president of the patriot council on Navy Island. Dr. Rolph practised at Rochford. There is a large square stone monument near the Church to the Websters, several of the dates on which are obliterated. It contains notice of Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Webster, also of the above Joseph Webster, who died 10th July, 1831, also of Jonathan his son 19th, December, 1835, aged 37 years. Close by is a head and foot stone to Joseph their son, who died in December, 1800, and Maria Anne their daughter, March 9th, 1808, aged 7 years. On the north side of the Church are several stones to the memory of the same family, one of whom died at Plumberow. There

is one to William Arthy, of Plumberow Mount farm, who departed this life October 18th, in the year of our Lord 1789, aged 31 years. Another to the memory of Mary Ann, the beloved wife of James Warren, of Plumbro' Mount, in this parish, who departed this life the 10th day of August, 1863, aged 62 years.

"She loved, and was loved.

Saints on earth and all the dead

But one communion make;

All join in Christ their living head,

And of his grace partake."

To Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Cackett, who died 1st of February, 1805, aged 48, likewise of the above Thomas Cackett, Senr., who died 12th August, 1817, aged 66 years. On the left, nearly close to the west wall, is a square marble tomb, on the top slab of which is, "To the memory of James Willes, Esq., who died 24th August, 1831, in the 84th year of his age." On the south side of the tomb, "The last sad token of filial reverence for departed worth." Willes was a near relative of the Willesees of Tillingham. To George Rule, August 31st, 1832, aged 52 years, also of George Rule, his son, October 7th, 1852, aged 41. There are likewise monuments of the Stock, Raven, Peach, Hicks, Crow, Porter, Stone, Denham, Thorn, and Wickers families. The latter lived at Lovedowns.

This church formerly belonged to Barking Abbey, and they presented to it as a rectory, till about 1384, when the great tithes being appropriated to them, they presented to it as a vicarage, and continued to do so till their suppression, and then both rectory and vicarage came to the crown. On the 22nd December, 1606, James I granted the great tithes to Edmund Newport and others to hold of the Manor of Greenwich. Soon after, the advowson of the Vicarage was given to Wadham* College in Oxford, who first presented

* Wadham College was founded by Nicholas Wadham, of Merifield, in Somersetshire, and Dorothy his wife in 1613. She was second daughter of Sir William Petre by his first wife Gertrude, daughter of Sir John Tyrell, of Warley.

in 1619, and continue to do so to the present day.

The tithes were commuted in 1844, and there was apportioned to the college as lay impropiators, £953 17s. 2¼d. per annum, and to the vicar £317 5s. 8¾d. The former had likewise 63 acres 3 roods and 1 pole of glebe, and the vicar 7 acres and 12 poles.

The present vicarage house stands where once was the farm house of the rectorial glebe. It was made suitable for the residence of the minister, during the incumbency of Dr. Swayne, who was the first resident vicar for many years, and in 1846 was conveyed by the college to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, with the garden and orchard adjoining, (containing about two acres) to form part of the endowment of the living. The old vicarage house stood in a pightle near the present school, and its site presented a much more eligible position for building a new edifice, but was overlooked at the time. It had long gone to ruin, but traces of it existed in the memory of persons now living. In a terrier of the year 1610, the vicarage house and glebe are thus described; "a dwelling house, a barn, an orchard, two gardens, and a little pightle adjoining, containing about two acres, and a parcel of land called the Vicarage Croft, of six acres." Not far from the old vicarage house, on the highest part of the large pasture field, on Hockley Hall farm, still known as Mill Hill, there stood a windmill and the miller's house. There is a sketch of these preserved among the documents belonging to the manor farm, which has lately been transferred, by the trustees of R. Bristow, Esq., to the Warden, Fellows and Scholars of Wadham College.

Very little is known worth notice respecting the clergy, except their names, until we come to John Carter, who was deprived at the commencement of the year 1554, and was succeeded by William Stoddard, who resigned in 1556. They were both presented by Ann of Cleves. The martyr, William Tims or Tyms,

who was deacon and curate under Stoddard, was deprived of that office soon after the accession of Mary. We glean from Foxe and other authors the following particulars. Having absconded, he returned and privately preached two sermons in the woods of Plumberough and Beaches, (then the property of Edmund Tyrell, of Beaches, in Rawreth,) where many of his late flock and others, amounting to about 100 persons, attended to hear him. One of his hearers was John Gye, servant to Tyrell, at Plumberough, and he got into sad disgrace for not disclosing this unlawful act to his master, who was in the commission of the peace. He would not, or perhaps could not, disclose the whereabouts of Tims, but at last another of Tyrell's men, Richard Sheriff, betrayed him to the constables, Edward Hedge and John James, who apprehended him. At his examination Tyrell cleared the court, apparently afraid of openly contending with Tims, for he was no match for him in argument. As usual in such cases Tyrell lost his temper and called him a traiterous knave, but Tims reminded him that in King Edward's time he had himself conformed to the then established order of things. So Tims, in company with Drake, rector of Thundersley, and four others, was sent up on the 22nd March, 1555, to London, to be examined by Bonner, who referred them to Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor, who committed the two clergymen to the King's Bench. Tyrell revenged himself upon poor Gye, and took away his coat and gave it to John Traiford, and sent him to St. Tosies to see good rule kept there. The constables who conveyed Tims to London, declared that they never heard the like, meaning his force of reasoning, and being a resolute unflinching man, nothing could turn him. When Tims appeared before Bishop Bonner, (being only a deacon) he was simply apparelled, his hose, we are told, was of two colours, the upper part white, and the nether stocks of sheep's russet. Bonner began to

mock him, asking, "are you a deacon?" But Tims told him he thought his own vesture did not so much vary from a deacon, as the Bishop's did from the Apostles. One of the Bishop's gentlemen seeing his resolution exclaimed, give him a chair, a toast and drink, and he will be lusty. At another examination Bonner charged Tims with being a ringleader amongst the hereticks, and that if his fault was not of a public character, he would, according to the rule of Christ in the 18th of Matthew, have told him of his fault privately, if that had no effect, then he would have exhorted him with two or three others, and if that had not sufficed, he would have told the church, but as his fault was manifest to the world he had thought good to proceed by another rule, "Such as sin, rebuke them openly, that others may fear." Tims's defence of the reformed doctrines was manly in the extreme; he declared he held none other religion than Christ preached, the apostles witnessed, the primitive Church received. He reminded Bonner how he had formerly professed reformed opinions, and had even written a preface to the Bishop of Winchester's book, entitled "*De verâ Obedientiâ*," wherein Bonner had treated the Bishop of Rome's power as false and pretended. This Bonner could not deny, but said he had complied with the times, as death was the penalty of asserting the Pope's supremacy. The issue of the contest was, that our martyr received sentence of death. A letter is still extant of Tims's to Agnes Glascock,* his parishioner, in the town of Hockley. He there tells her he shall shortly be sent to the Bishop of London's coal-house, and from thence follow his dear brethren and sisters that are gone before him to heaven in a fiery

* Agnes Glascock had been allured to go to mass through infirmity and her husband's persuasions, which occasioned her much sorrow and repentance, but was raised up again by the comfortable letters of Tims, and afterwards of Mr. John Careless. Agnes visited Careless in prison, who died in the King's Bench, about 1st July, 1556, after two years incarceration in various prisons, and was buried in a dunghill.

chariot. He begs her to follow the truth he had taught her, and not be shut out with the foolish virgins. He says he shall be found merrily singing at the end, Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabbaoth. These words concluded the letter written in his own blood.

Continue in prayer	By me, W. Tyms, in the
Ask in faith	King's-Bench for the
And obtain your desire.	gospel of Christ.

Amongst other letters which exhibit a truly christian mind, was one of thanks to his parishioners for their charity to his wife, who was confined during his incarceration. In another he tells his friends that he might have kept out of the way, and not been taken, but he considered it his duty not to desert the sheep committed to his care, and that God would require any souls lost on this account at their hands, at the day of judgment. In another letter, shortly before his execution, dated, Newgate, April 12th, he exhorts them against Popery, trusts to meet them in Heaven, takes an affectionate farewell, except he is sent down to be burned amongst them, which thing he states was then uncertain to him. The sentence of the law which Bonner had pronounced upon him was at length put in execution, and being now in the hands of the secular power, he was on the 14th, or according to some authorities on the 23rd April, 1556, together with his five fellow sufferers, burnt in one fire at Smithfield.

Thomas Glascock, who was presented to this living by the Bishop of London, in 1574, is described as formerly a wheelwright, showing the humble extraction of many of the clergy at that period. The first appointment made by the Warden, Fellows and Scholars of Wadham College, was that of John Willis, formerly one of the said scholars, who was presented on the 24th September, 1619. Newcourt says he was afterwards rector of Ingatestone, but in this he was clearly in error, as the John Willis, of Ingatestone, was ejected in 1662, for nonconformity, and became pastor of a church at

Wapping, about the year 1680, and was then a very acceptable and popular preacher.* John Leaves, M.A., was presented 31st December, 1723, and resigned in 1725, and was presented to Fryerning, April 22nd, 1733. Caleb Cotton, M.A., succeeded him, and upon his resignation William Petvin, A.M., obtained this living, February 9th, 1733. George Costard, A.M., was his successor, April 7th, 1747. Abraham Clavey succeeded by the resignation of Costard, December 10th, 1747. Richard Marshall, December 21st, 1748, by the resignation of Clavey. Henry Rigby in 1776, by the cession of Marshall. George Swayne, D.D., succeeded upon the death of Rigby, 30th June, 1819, and died unmarried, February 13th, 1837, æt 64, at his brother's house, in Pucklechurch, Gloucestershire, and was interred, February 21st, in the family vault beneath the chancel of Pucklechurch Church. He was likewise vicar of South Bemfleet, and was for many years a Fellow of Wadham College. The family are descended from Sir John Swayne, a Mayor of Norwich, who was knighted for holding that city for the Lancastrians, during the wars of the Roses, and to whom was granted the coat of arms by Guion, in 1444, part of the bearings being three red roses and three pheons. The elder sons of the Swayne family have been clergymen since the Reformation. One of them came into Gloucestershire with Bishop Ironside, of Bristol, to whom he was chaplain. Another of the family (though not a direct ancestor of Dr. Swayne) was the Rev. Samuel Swayne, who was tutor to the son of the Earl of Strafford, minister to Charles I, and it is believed was present at the Earl's execution. He was afterwards rector of the two Wortleys, near Winchester. The Grandfather of the Dr. was the Rev. George Swayne, rector of Lymington, in Somersetshire, and also for a time of East Harptree. He left a son,

* The identification is clearly an error. See Calamy; and Davids on Evangelical Nonconformity in Essex, page 411.

the Rev. George Swayne, who was for a few years rector of East Harptree, in Somersetshire, and afterwards vicar for nearly 60 years of Pucklechurch, Gloucestershire, and was also part of that time rector of Dyrham, an adjoining village. He was also chaplain to the Duke of Gordon, and was well known as a naturalist and horticulturist, and is often referred to as an authority in Withering's Botany. He published a work on pasture grasses, for which a prize was awarded by the Bath Agricultural Society. He died at Dyrham, October 24th, 1827. There is a memorial window in the chancel of the church at Pucklechurch, (under which is the family vault,) to him and ten of his sons and daughters, of whom Dr. Swayne, of Hockley, was the eldest son, but there is no other monument to the latter. The next incumbent of Hockley was the Rev. William Harding M.A., who held the living from 1837 to 1845. He was Fellow and Divinity Lecturer of Wadham College, Oxford, and had three brothers, of whom George is a solicitor in London, Thomas is vicar of Bexley, in Kent, and John Harding, D.D., was bishop of Bombay from 1851 to 1868, but has now retired. In Hockley Churchyard is an altar tomb surrounded with iron railings, with this inscription upon the top slab, "Here rest in hope the mortal remains of Charlotte, the beloved wife of the Rev. William Harding, and daughter of the late George Simcox, Esq., of Harborne, in the County of Stafford, Born August 27th, 1804. Died March 13th, 1844. Also of the above Rev. William Harding, vicar of this Parish. Born May 24th, 1800. Died October 20th, 1845." On the west end is a text taken from 1 Cor., xv chapter, 53 verse; on the east end, 1 Cor., xv chapter, 57 verse; on the north side, Phil., iii chapter, 20 and 21 verses; and on the south, Rom. xiv chapter, and 8 verse. His successor was the Rev. Edward Cockey now rector of Fryerning, in this county, who was

instituted to Hockley, April 8th, 1846. He had previously been for some years Fellow and Tutor of Wadham College, having graduated in 1830, with the distinction of a first class in mathematics and second class in classics. During his residence in Oxford he had been public examiner and select preacher, and from 1849 to 1860 he was rural dean of the deanery of Rochford. His first wife, who died at Clifton in 1864, was daughter of James Crang, Esq., of Timsbury, in Somersetshire, by whom he has several children. There is a monument in this churchyard to his son, William Henry, who was born 19th May, and died December 24th, 1849, with texts from Isa., xl chapter, 11 verse, and Mark, x chapter, 14 verse. Since his accession to Fryerning he married, September 20th, 1870, Ella, daughter of the late Joseph Robert Bowen, Esq., of the Orchard, St James's, Hanover, in the Island of Jamaica. The College have now presented to the vicarage the Rev. William Harding, the eldest son of his predecessor, who was instituted August 11th, 1870. He took his M.A. degree in 1868, and married in the month of his presentation, Emma Mary, fourth daughter of John Iliffe, Esq., solicitor, of the Manor House, Watford, Herts.

A tradition exists that two men, executed at Maidstone, confessed amongst other burglaries, they had broken open the church of Hockley, and being foiled in not securing the plate they cut up two surplices and the parish registers. Those that are left of baptisms, commence in 1732, but the Rev. H. Rigby, vicar in 1813, makes a memorandum that the registers previous to 1768 were kept in the old wooden chest in the church, and were eaten up by mice, but underneath Mr. Steadman, curate, adds that he had rescued them, or a portion *uncut* from 1732. The Rev. Henry Rigby, upon the cover of the baptismal register book, in 1818, records there is no Vicarage House, and amongst other matters, giving an account

of the tithes and the quantity of the glebe, that the church fence is kept up by the parish. This statement is signed by the parishioners. We find in 1742, Hurst minister. 1745, Thomas Rooder minister, 1793, Miles Steadman curate, 1813, J. Wise curate. 1818, Isaac Smith curate. June, 1828, George Hamilton officiating minister. Peter Harnett Jennings, curate in 1863. The name of Hyam or Higham frequently occurs, commencing in 1769. Amongst the burials, Martha Westwood and Abraham Davy in 1782. There is a memorandum in 1819 that James Camper had been upwards of fifty years church clerk. Of this family is the Camper now claiming certain estates in this hundred.

From the inventories of church goods taken in the sixth year of the reign of Edward VI, by "Wyllyam harrys and John dennyson, churchwardens, and Richard Smythe, sextten," we find enumerated "three bells in the steple, two stremers of sylke, two hande bells waying tenne pounds, and one payer off waffer yornes weying xxj li." These wafer irons were moulds wherein the wafers or bread intended for the altar were baked. For an interesting account of the preparation of the meal used for wafers and the ceremonies used before the Reformation, see the Transactions of the Essex Archæological Society, vol. IV, page 225.

LEIGH.

THE MANOR AND ESTATES—CHARITIES—HISTORICAL ANECDOTES—WORTHIES—THE CHURCH—INSCRIPTIONS—CLERGY—NONCONFORMIST CHAPEL—LEIGH TOKENS—ACCOUNT OF THE SPRINGS AND WELLS, &c.

L EIGH is written in records Legra, Lighe, Lye, and Lee. It is a chartered port, possessing a small custom house, with an officer, subject to the port of Maldon. The coast guard service have likewise a chief boatman and six men in charge of this station. It was in ancient times probably a Roman settlement, judging from the quantity of coins still found,* and in the addition to Gough's Camden's Britannia, page 52, it states that 176 Roman coins came to light, by the fall of a cliff, after rains.

From the earliest records we find it possessed a seafaring population, for Domesday tells us there were then five bordars† on the water who do not hold any land. Norden mentions Leigh as well furnished with seafaring men and fishers. Camden speaks of Leigh

* Numerous Roman coins have been found in Shore Field and Church Field, situate on Leigh Hall farm. Mr. Whympster has a silver one of Antoninus Pius, and others of Constantinus, Nerva, Trajan, Constantine, Constantius, and Severus. On the reverse of the latter is "*Restitutor Urbis*." Some of these coins have been collected by the Rev. W. E. Heygate.

† Bordarii, so called from Bord a cottage, a class unknown to any other document; they were little inferior to the Villeins, but superior to the Serfs.

as a pretty town,* well stocked with lusty seamen. It is clear that from time immemorial it has always been a nursery for British sailors, and some of its inhabitants have risen to great distinction, and in the 17th century it was a place of some consequence, being the only town on the coast between Gravesend and Harwich. In the last and the early part of the present century the trade consisted chiefly in the shrimp, oyster, whelk, mussel, and winkle fishery, but the oyster and whelk trade have now been abandoned. The ground adapted for oyster layings is situated between Leigh Marsh and Canvey Island. The oysters raised here were of the large sea species, and a great deal of the brood was brought from Jersey and the neighbourhood of Cancalle Bay, on the coast of France. The ground is now devoted entirely to the growth of winkles and a few mussels. The former are procured in an embryo state from the breeding grounds, and after laying on these shores for some time arrive at full maturity. With respect to the shrimp fishery, as many as 100 gallons of shrimps have been taken by one vessel in a single day, and it is no uncommon occurrence for 2,000 gallons to be sent to London as the joint produce of a day's fishing by the Leigh shrimpers. There are about 100 vessels engaged in this trade. From the returns made by the London, Tilbury and Southend Railway of the weight of sea fish carried from their station at Leigh, it will be seen that the produce varied considerably in different years, as in 1855 the amount was 467 tons 3 cwt. of oysters, and 29 tons 13 cwt. of winkles, mussels, and shrimps, whilst in 1864 the returns are 33 tons 5 cwt. of oysters and 704 tons 16 cwt. of winkles, mussels, and shrimps. The winkles and whelks are sold by the bushel, and the mussels by the

* A writer describing it 60 years ago says "there has evidently been a degeneracy, and that antiquarians are not remarkable for the delicacy of their taste." Since this period it has steadily progressed, and bids fair to rival many towns in the Hundred. New buildings are constantly rising and superseding the ancient hovels.

sack, each sack weighing 200lbs. This fishery, called in the rate book Leigh Ray, is in fact a portion of Hadleigh Ray, which was formerly the property of Lady Olivia Sparrow, but was purchased in 1851 by the late William Hilton, of Danbury, and is now in the hands of his trustees.

The population of this parish in 1835 amounted to 1254, which increased, in 1861, to 1459, and at the census taken in 1871, to 1679 souls. The acreage consists of 2297 acres 1 pole, including several hundred acres of ouse and winkle grounds. The rateable value in 1870 was £3791. The bulk of the soil is not first rate, and varies in character, from tenacious to stony, with springy subsoil. The Elm is one of the best farms, consisting of good useful mixed land; and Lapwater Hall is of similar quality, but stiffer. Leigh Hall varies, some of it being turnip land. Towards Hadleigh, by the Heath and Park farms, gravelly and hot. On the hills towards the north, from Brick House to Gowles, various soils are to be met with, for the most part heavy, but some turnip land; further on towards Belfairs it becomes thin skinned, hot and springy.

This parish has been supposed to have been part of Rayleigh before the conquest, when it belonged to a freeman, and to have derived its name from the Saxon word Leah,* the place. In the record it is stated to have been held by Ranulph Piperell or Peverell. There is but one manor. The Mansion House or Hall is pleasantly situated about a quarter of a mile east of the church, and commands a fine prospect of the Channel; looking south-east you have a view of Margate Church and Harbour, south-west, Gravesend and Milton, whilst south the eye commands Sheerness with the various vessels in the Medway. The house was originally larger, probably with a western wing, gabled to the south, as foundations in that direction

* It is mentioned by Negus, rector of Leigh, as "the Lee," circa 1608.

have been found. The entrance door from the porch is massive and of antique construction, and some of the inner doors have hinges reminding one of a bygone age. The edifice is said to date from the year 1561, and several of the rooms possess some interesting panelling of Spanish oak. A mantel-piece of the same material in one of the bedrooms has fortunately escaped the painter. Except the entry in Domesday book we find nothing upon record concerning this place till the reign of Edward II, and then it was in Apton, of Apton-hall, in Canewdon. John de Arpeton, who presented to this church as Lord of Lega in 1326, and upon two subsequent occasions, is styled in the register of Bishop Baudake "De Dippetone." Of the same John de Apetone, John Haddock, of this place, called *fatuus* or simple, who died in 1327, held 12 acres, with one messuage, and a certain marsh, in common with his partners by service and suit at the court of this manor. From the year 1337 to 1673 it appears to have been in the same hands as the manor of Rochford, namely, in the families of Rochford, Bohun, Boteler, Bullen or Boleyn, and Riche. Richard Lord Riche acquired it by alienation from Henry Lord Hunsdon, son of Mary Bullen, and at the time of his decease, 12th June, 1566, held the manor of Lighe alias Lighe-hall, and the advowson of the church. In the rental of the possessions of Sir Robert Riche, Knight Lord Riche, taken the 4th April, 1577, Leigh Hall manor is described as being "in the tenure of John Pope, and worth in the farm of the same by the year with £4 0s. 6½d. for the rents of assize, as well of the free as of the customary tenants there, in the charge of the farmer of the said manor £13 3s. 0d." It continued in his posterity, the Earls of Warwick, and upon the partition of their estates it came to Henry St. John, Esq., afterwards Lord Battersea. Of his son Henry, Viscount Bolingbroke, it was purchased by Francis St. John, Esq., who married Mary,

daughter of Daniel Foorth, Alderman, of London, from whom it descended as Hadley, to Sir *Francis* St. John, Bart., (creation September 10, 2 Geo. 1.) who espoused Mary, eldest daughter of Sir Nathaniel Gould, Knight. His daughter and coheir, Mary, was married to Sir John Bernard,* Baronet, who had this estate and Hadley in her right; in which he was succeeded by his son Sir Robert Bernard, Baronet, who died 1st January, 1789, and whose will was proved 21st January of the same year. It is dated June 13th, 1785. His daughter and heiress married Robert Sparrow, of Worlingham, in Suffolk, and had an only son, Brigadier-General Robert Bernard† Sparrow, who came into these estates during the life-time of his father, and disentailed them 20th April, 1803, and by will dated 14th October, following, left the estates to his wife, the Right Hon. Lady Olivia Acheson, eldest daughter of Arthur, Earl of Gosford,§ for life, with remainder (subject to the contingencies) to his daughter

* Sir John Bernard and Mary his wife were descended from Sir Oliver St. John, of the Commonwealth, of whom there is a splendid portrait by Jameson, at Kimbolton. St. John is said, as much as any single man could do, to have made the revolution. He was chief justice of the "Common Bench," and subsequently became one of Cromwell's peers, called the "Other House." In the southern aisle of the parish Church of Brampton, Huntingdon, is a mural tablet with this inscription:—

H. S. E.

"Johannes Bernard Roberti. F. Barenettus. Vir ingenio Eruditione Beneficentia. Vitaeq. Sanctitate Singulari: A comitatu Huntingdonensi in Parliamentum lectus in eo munere integerrime versatus est. Juris Legum q.º consultissimus. Ex uore Elizabethae Oliverii St. John F: Filium Unicum Filiasq. octo suscepit. Qua defuncta in secundum Matrimonium duxit Gratiam Richardi Shukburgh Equitis aurati F. Vivit annos XXXXVIII Menses VII Natus Novemb: MDCXXX Mort. Jun. MDCLXXI. Uxor Superstes Marito optime de se merito. Monumentum hoc ponendum curavit. Honoris Pietatisq. causa." The reader will detect a strange anachronism in the above.

† General Sparrow assumed the name of Bernard upon taking possession of the property.

§ Archibald, Earl of Gosford, married Mary Sparrow, the only sister of the Brigadier.

Millicent, and her eldest son in tail male. The Brigadier died in the prime of life, and on a white marble monument, on the west wall of the south aisle of Worlingham Church, Suffolk, surmounted by two urns, is the following Latin inscription to his memory and that of his only son:—

M. S.

"Roberti Bernard Sparrow. Roberti Sparrow de Worlingham filii unici quem, dum ex insulâ Tobago, cui præfuerat in Angliam reverteretur febris inter navigandum lethali ictu percussit.

Neonon

Roberti Acheson Bernard St. John Sparrow, Roberti Bernard Sparrow, prædicti filii unici, adolescentis summæ spei. Qui valetudine, ut videbatur, integrâ phthisi subito infectus, morbi fallacissimi impetibus per quindecim menses toleratis succubuit.

His dilectissimis, optimis, utrique optime de se merenti, pater filio, avus nepoti, senex juvenibus, solus superstes, cenotaphium ponit.

Lector

sortis humanæ vicēs spemque mortales fallentem edoctus.

abi.

R. B. S.

Obiit Aug. xxix A.D. MDCCCV, ætatis xxxiv, sepultus in insula Tobago.

R. A. B. St. J. S.

Obiit Mar. iii. A.D. MDCCCXVIII, ætatis xix, apud Villam Francam prope Neczam. Sepultus apud Brampton in agro Huntingdoniensi."

In Brampton Church there are two tablets erected by Lady Olivia, one of which is at variance with the above as to the age and place of sepulture of her husband. The first tablet is, "Sacred to the memory of B. General Robert Bernard Sparrow, who departed this life in his 33rd year, August 29th, 1805, on board the ship in which he was returning to England from Barbadoes, where the service of his country had called him, and from whence he brought the fatal fever which terminated his existence. His remains lie buried at Tortola. This tribute of affection and respect is inscribed by his widow."

The second tablet is in memory of the son of the

above, and of his daughter, the Duchess of Manchester, and of his wife, Lady Olivia Sparrow. On an open bible resting on a recumbent cross twined with immortelles is this inscription, "Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid. Isa. xii, 2."

"In the vault beneath lie the earthly remains of Robert Acheson Bernard St. John Sparrow, the only son of his mother Olivia Bernard Sparrow. His father, the late Brig^{dr}. Gen. Sparrow, whose memorial is placed above, he lost in infancy. He had the witness of the Spirit, that he was a child of God: he was enabled to evidence his faith in Christ, to look to him as the way, the truth, and the life, as made unto him wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption: to bear a long illness with unrepining patience, and resignation to His will: and to behold death not only without fear, but as the valley leading to everlasting life. He gave up his soul into the hands of his Saviour and entered into peace on Tuesday the 3rd of March, 1818, aged 19 years, at Villa Franca, near Nice. 'O Death where is thy sting? O Grave where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.'"

"The Mother who inscribed the above is through the mercy of God enabled to record in her beloved only daughter the like precious faith and peaceful submission to the will of her Heavenly Father, in whom, through Christ, she trusts they all shall be reunited to be 'for ever with the Lord.' Millicent, Duchess of Manchester, entered into the 'rest which remaineth for the people of God,' on Tuesday, November 21st, 1848. 'The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord.'"

"The Right Honourable Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow entered into her rest, February 12th, 1863. 'Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of

death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. Because I live, ye shall live also. Where I am, there ye shall be also."

The estate after the General's death subsequently became vested in his widow, the Right Honorable Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow, of Brampton-park, Huntingdonshire, whose exertions in Leigh, in furtherance of education, will make her name long remembered. As the railway, by cutting through the heart of Leigh, purified it, as far as a free current of air could accomplish, and did for it the same useful work that Hercules performed for the stable of Augeas, so did Lady Olivia, by her efforts for the instruction and enlightenment of the poorer classes, accomplish much for their mental benefit, and was at considerable expense in elevating their intellectual character. Such was the destitute spiritual condition of the place at the early part of the present century, that no Infant School or adult classes for religious instruction existed, but these defects she supplied and likewise erected Day Schools,* which were opened in December, 1834. She was a woman of strong will, and decided in her convictions, which were of the extreme low church party, then called "Recordites." It was said of her she could not endure the papacy, for she was a Pope herself. Seeing the low ebb of morality prevalent, and the spiritual darkness of the population, she called to her assistance the services of the Rev. Ridley H. Herschell,†

* These Schools, since her death, have been sold with the rest of the estates.

† Ridley Haim Herschell was born in 1807, of Jewish parents, at Strzelno a village in Prussian Poland, about 30 miles distant from Thorn. He was converted to christianity and baptized in 1830. His first wife was Helen Skirving Mowbray, daughter of William Mowbray, a merchant living at Leith, near Edinburgh; and his second, a Miss Fuller Maitland, who survives him, he married in the autumn of 1855. At the period of his decease he was pastor of Trinity Chapel, John Street, Edgeware Road. He died at Brighton, April 14th, 1864, aged 57, and was buried on the 20th in Kensal Green Cemetery. He had so endeared himself to the police of the D division of the metropolis, that 300 attended his funeral as a mark of respect. He used frequently to meet them, and had a bible class of these men, and did much good by reading and explaining the Scriptures to them. There is still a School Room at Leigh, which was built by Herschell himself, near his cottage. *Vide* Memoir of him by his daughter, printed in 1869.

who laboured zealously as a missionary for the eternal welfare of the people. The incumbent, Walter, had warned him it was dangerous to go down into the place, such was the untoward character of the population. This was in 1835. At the first service in the School-room the fishermen attended in white or blue guernseys, without coats at all, and came to the door with pipes in their mouths. He was at Leigh about 15 months, and endeared himself much to the poor creatures. His first congregation was about 30, and subsequently increased to 500. When he left, 700 persons subscribed a penny each towards purchasing a bible and prayer book in token of their love and gratitude, their names as donors being inscribed on the fly leaf.

Upon Lady Olivia's death, in 1863, the estates were sold under the following arrangement. Millicent, her only daughter, who had married in 1822, George, Viscount Mandeville, died during her Ladyship's life-time, November 21st, 1848, leaving several children, the eldest of whom, the Right Honorable William Drogo Montagu, in July, 1852, when Lord Mandeville, married the Baroness Louise Von Frederike Alten, of the kingdom of Hanover, on which occasion the Sparrow estates were resettled. By indenture bearing date July 21st, 1852, Lady Olivia and Lord Mandeville united to disentail the estates in Essex, and they were conveyed to trustees upon trust for sale, and those not previously disposed of by private contract were sold by auction upon her Ladyship's* decease. Leigh Hall was sold to Thomas James Smith, a coal merchant of Sun Wharf, Deptford, for £8,000, whilst the manor, (copyhold tenants thirty) producing about £42 per annum, was sold for £1,130, to Ernest William Wild, of 13, College Crescent, Belize Park, Hampstead, Middlesex. The manor claims a fee of 3d per foot frontage for the stalls at fair time, on the second Tuesday in May.

* She bore the arms of Acheson impaled with those of Bernard, St. John and Sparrow.

The "Elm Farm," styled in the late conditions of sale, and in a recent lease the Ellen elm farm has various aliases. In the register of voters for 1850, it is called Allen's elm; by some writers Adam's elm, and in a guide book to Southend, probably a misprint, it figures under the name of Adonis. At the close of the last century it was the property of *William Webb*, a native of Hatfield Broad Oak. He came up to Leigh, and was working incognito on the hall farm as ploughman, when the Elm farm being offered for sale he attended the auction, and became the purchaser for the sum of £800. This was *circa* 1780. The timber at that time was of so little value that he cut quantities down about four feet high, being level with the tops of the hedges. His son *John*, who predeceased him, was killed by the kick of a horse, and his widow married Isaac Draper. *William*† the son of John, who inherited the estate, married Elizabeth Tyler, of Down Hall, Rayleigh. He died at the Heath farm, November 23rd, 1850, aged 59, and Elizabeth his wife August 5th, 1864, aged 68 years. They have two grave stones to their memory on the south side of Leigh church-yard. In 1856 the property, with the exception of a field of 7 acres at Turner's corner, sold to Henry Streeter for £270, was purchased by Robert Thomas Barry, a farmer and schoolmaster of Woolwich, for £2,000. After his death (*circa* 1859) his son, John Ffinch Barry, inherited it, who is now a ward in Chancery. The house was built in 1861. At the three wants way near this house formerly stood a magnificent elm, called Ellen's or Adam's elm, from which no doubt the farm derived its name. At the commencement of the present century decay rapidly set in; it lost one by one its gigantic arms, and gradually became reduced to a mere shell. A dozen men could get within, and it measured about 30 feet in circumference. The last vestige disappeared about

† John Webb, second son of William Webb, is preacher at the Free Church, Worcester.

30 years ago, since which all attempts to replace it by a successor have been frustrated.

"Brick House" farm is in three parishes. The bounds between Prittlewell and Leigh, passing through the house, the boundary mark being cut upon the kitchen mantelpiece, and the rest of the land is in Eastwood. There is a ceiling here worth attention in plaster work, having figures of cherubs and a very pretty border on the west side. Over the fire-place on the wall is a figure of a female reclining by an urn with a cypress above. This farm in 1722 was in Abraham Caillovel, who sold it the same year to John Lane, who died in 1726. The latter left it by will to his nephew, Henry Lane, but he dying under 21 it came to his two sisters, Dorothy and Mary. Mary, who was the survivor, inherited the whole property, and resided at Aveton Gifford, in Co. Devon. She died in 1772, unmarried, and as far as regards this property intestate, and was buried in the parish church of St. Saviour's, Dartmouth. Her heir was her cousin Arthur Holdsworth,* the third of that name, who married first a Miss Taylor, and second a Miss Hannah Newcopt. By will made in 1777 and proved in 1778, he left this estate to Arthur Holdsworth, his son, by the first wife, who resided occasionally on his estate at Widdecombe, Co. Devon, where he had a fine library. His wife Elziabeth was daughter of Robert Holdsworth. His will was proved in 1787, by which he bequeathed this property to his son Arthur Howe Holdsworth,† who sold it in 1805, it then consisting of 158 acres, for £3,800, to Joseph Cuff, of Whitechapell and Barking, who redeemed the land tax. The latter died in 1817, leaving his eldest son, Joseph Cuff, of Ash, in Kent, his heir. The property was sold in 1824, under the provisions of his

* His father, Arthur Holdsworth, was a merchant, and resided at Dartmouth, Co. Devon; his mother was Marcella Gibbs, and his grandmother was Elizabeth Lane, sister of John Lane.

† A pedigree of the Lanes and Holdsworths is annexed to the title deeds.

father's will, when his brother, Thomas Cuff, who was the third and youngest son, became the purchaser. The latter married Mary Ann Adams, and subsequently assumed in 1842 the surname of Adams. In 1865 this same Thomas Cuff Adams, of Granville Cottage, Lansdown, near Bath, sold the estate to the present owner, Arthur Bentall, who is resident, and enfranchised the copyholds in 1866. The Bentalls are from Rayne, near Braintree.

There is a field now added to this farm, being in the parish of Prittlewell, called "Bell ropes," consisting of an acre, more or less, that was sold in 1701 by the then owner, Thomas Wicks, of North Shoebury, husbandman, for the sum of £6 to John Addisson, higler. The latter sold it in the reign of Queen Anne, A.D. 1712-13, for the sum of 20s., and a weekly allowance, to the then churchwarden of Leigh, William Hutton, and Abraham Mandrey, overseer. This piece of land was purchased in 1866 by Arthur Bentall, for the sum of £30, of the parishioners of Leigh, and the money was placed in the hands of the churchwardens for the repair of the church bells, or any part of the fabric of the Church.

"Lapwater Hall," now called Leigh House, was formerly in Benjamin Ferrand, whose will is dated 31st October, 1780, and who died in 1781. It has since been in John Alliston, a solicitor of London, and was conveyed to Edmund Lamprell by indenture dated 28th August, 1841, who lived here 41 years, 21 as tenant and 20 as proprietor, and retired to Croomes Hill, Greenwich, where he died in 1862, and was buried in the catacombs at Nunhead cemetery. After his wife's death in 1864 the farm was sold to Anthony Blackborne, of 35, South Audley Street, Grosvenor Square, who married Annie Turpin, daughter of William Turpin, of Salvador House, Bishopsgate Street, London. His parents formerly lived at Gusted-hall, in the parish of Rochford, and are

buried in the Congregational Chapel yard in that parish, where there is a tomb surrounded with iron railings, to the memory of "Mrs. Mary Blackborne, who died July 20th, 1827, in the 30th year of her age, also Mr. Anthony Blackborne,* late husband of the above, who departed this life November 7th, 1827, aged 38 years." Mrs. Blackborne was a daughter of — Sach, a tanner, of Coggeshall.

The house was built in 1751, and upon the authority of Lamprell, a plate with the date was affixed on the old pump, now no longer extant. There is a field belonging to this farm called Lost Field, the right of way to which is through Lost Lane, which latter is claimed by the owner of the Park farm, but the origin of the names cannot be ascertained. There exists a tradition that Lapwater-hall was held formerly by a highwayman, who escaped justice from the circumstance of his possessing a horse without ears, and his substituting false ones when upon his adventures on the roads; and a story is told that when the present house was built the men complained that they got no beer, but were obliged to *lap* water, and so nicknamed the place from the stinginess of the owner. As we have not been able to get a view of the deeds belonging to this estate we cannot solve the matter.

"Belfairs" has been in the same hands as Leigh-hall from time immemorial, until the recent sale of the Sparrow estates, when it was purchased by Browne Webb for £1750. It extends into the parish of Eastwood, but the house is in Leigh. Upon this farm, whilst ploughing a field that had formerly been wood land, was discovered, *circa* 1830, a mortar of Purbeck marble. This vessel, which has a hole worn through the bottom, was formerly used for triturating vegetable substances. Its date is uncertain, but probably mediæval and early. It has been presented by Mr. H.

* Their only daughter married John Webb. Others of the family are interred at Hawkwell.

W. King, to the Essex Archæological Society, and it is now deposited in the Museum at Colchester.

"Wakering wood," formerly in the same hands as the above, was sold in 1863 to Browne Webb for £360. It contained 25 acres, 2 roods, 29 poles, but has since been stubbed, and now rated with other land. The right of way is through a lane on Lapwater-hall.

"Horseley wood" is partly in this parish and the rest in Hadleigh. There are 28 acres, 2 roods, 17 poles here, which belong to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. G. A. W. Welch, Esq., is the lessee.

Morant tells us that John Cock* held here in 1574 lands called Beltons, Jennett Misters, and other messuages and lands of the manors of Leigh and Chalkwell. "Belton hills, or Ellis farm," was formerly in the possession of Daniel Thorne, of No. 14, Royal Terrace, Southend, who died 17th September, 1830, aged 45 years. He farmed Havengore marsh, Porters in Prittlewell, together with Leigh marsh, and it was in returning from the latter he met his untimely death. In the act of shoving off from the island, being alone, it is supposed he overbalanced himself, and being encumbered with a heavy coat was unfortunately drowned. His wife was Sarah Martham,† daughter of John and Rebecca Martham, of Shenfield-hall. They were buried at Rochford, and upon the tomb stone on the south side of the church-yard are these lines:

"Tho' health may flourish yet beware to trust,
To-morrow's sun may lay you in the dust,
How often does the messenger of death
Unlooked for come, and snatch the vital breath.

* See Prittlewell.

† She was sister of John Martham, of Dacre Park, Blackheath, and formerly of Pilgrim's Hatch, Essex, wine merchant, and Thomas Martham, formerly of Brentwood, and late of Maida Hill, Paddington. Thomas married Margaret Dearsley, and dying in 1830, was buried at Kensal Green cemetery. John is buried at Weald. The family came originally from Dunmow.

Sarah, his wife, died at Lee, Kent, February 15th, 1861, aged 70 years." Near them are interred the parents of the above-named Daniel Thorne, viz., "Abraham Thorne, who died on the 11th of April, 1835, aged 81 years, and Eleanor, his wife, who died September 25th, 1839, aged 93 years." The name was formerly spelt Thorn, but an e was added and adopted at the instance of Daniel Thorne. After his death this estate, with the exception of some cottages, was sold to Arthur Davis, of East Farleigh, Maidstone, Kent, upon whose decease it was sold by his surviving trustee, in 1857, to J. Eliot, of Denton, near Gravesend. The cottages were sold to John Martham, and have since been absorbed by the Railway Company.

"Gowles," together with Russells, were part of the possessions of Edmund Tyrrell, of Beaches, in Rawreth, who died in 1576. The former in the early part of the present century was in the Rev. Dr. Martyn, rector of St. George the Martyr, Queen Square, Bloomsbury. He had two children who jointly inherited this estate, the Rev. Charles Martyn, of Harley Street, Cavendish Square, Middlesex, and afterwards rector of Charlton, near Dover, which he resigned in 1850, and removed to the rectory of Palgrave, in Suffolk, and Elizabeth Martyn, of Connaught Square, Middlesex. She married in 1850 a Mr. Coringu, a Norfolk clergyman. The Martyns sold the estate in 1849 to Dr. F. E. Hicks, of 7, Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square. The house was burnt down in 1840, and the present cottage erected by Dr. Hicks in 1851, who, following the example of Dr. Martyn, uses the residence for a resort for his family during the autumn months. Independent of the usual way of access, Gowles has a right of way fenced off through Leigh-hall land.

"A manor or messuage in this parish called 'Lieth and Triggs,' with lands holden of the manor of Leigh-hall, belonged to William Harrys, Esq., in the year 1556." Lieth is supposed to have been identical with

Leigh heath. "He held also here a wood and pasture called 'Burned-oke,' and divers lands called Somers, of the Lord Riche, as of his manor of Southchurch Hall." There is a farm at Prittlewell, a few acres of which extend into this parish, called the "Burnt Oak farm," which was formerly the property of Lemuel Bradley, steward to the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose daughter Elizabeth was the second wife of Dr. Cook,* of Leigh, who afterwards acquired this estate. Amongst other sons he had George Cook, a surgeon, of Prittlewell, who had a son also a surgeon, who left two daughters, one of whom married — Hardess, the other a Van Kempen. The estate is now in the Hardess family, one of whom, George Hardess, is a wine merchant at Cardiff, and another, William, a coal merchant at Sydenham. In probable connection with this estate, formerly copyhold of Southchurch Hall, is a large post, which at one time stood on the waste opposite "Lost Lane," on the left hand side of the road leading from Leigh to Hadleigh, but is now enclosed within the boundary of Leigh-heath† farm, having an iron plate attached with this inscription; "Here grew the Burnt Oak, being the anc^t bounds of the manor of Southchurch, belonging to John Gregory Welch, Esq., 1832." The inscription on this post previous to this date was engraven on copper, and bore a date of the latter end of the last century.

"Leigh-heath and Leigh-park" farms, have been for more than a century in the Johnson family. *William Prior Johnson, Esq.*, a Magistrate and solicitor who lived at Great Sir Hughes', Great Baddow, died in possession of them September 25th, 1776, aged 64, and has a monument to his memory in the aisle of that church, where his remains are buried in an adjacent

* See inscriptions.

† In Greenwood's map of Essex, made in 1824, Leigh-heath and Leigh-park farms are inaccurately placed. They should be *vice versa*.

vault. His only daughter, *Hannah*, married Mr. Thomas Richardson, gent. She died at the age of 84, and was buried at Brixton Church, Surrey; and Thomas Richardson, her husband, in the ancient chapel at Brentwood, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, lately pulled down, but there is no inscription remaining. They had issue four daughters and three sons, William, Lawrence Thomas,* and James. The eldest son *William*, inherited the estate and took the surnames of Prior Johnson, in compliance with his grandfather's will, and those after him. He died 21st April, 1839, when these estates came to the youngest brother, *James*, of Stock House in this county, who died at St. Hellier, in the Island of Jersey, 14th September, 1844, aged 69. His wife, Caroline, died July 13th, 1851, in her 70th year, and is buried under an altar tomb in Stock Church-yard. They had three sons and two daughters. Upon his decease these estates came to their son *William* Prior Johnson William Prior Johnson formerly of Woodlands†, but now of Brent House, Brentwood. In 1840 he married Mary Sophia Mitford, eldest daughter of the late James Renshaw, Esq., merchant, of 30, Connaught Square, London. She died April 7th, 1848, in the 26th year of her age, and is buried in the vault at Stock, leaving four daughters by her husband, one of whom is married to Charles Carne Lewis, jun., of Brentwood. In 1850 Mr. Johnson married the second time, to Mary Ann, the youngest daughter of the late William Redman, Esq., solicitor, of Bath, by whom he has one son and one daughter.

* Lawrence Thomas Johnson Richardson, M.D., the second grandson of *William* Prior Johnson, was partly disinherited by his grandfather's will. He died 28th June, 1861, and was buried in the new church of St. Thomas the Martyr, at Brentwood, where there is an inscription to him. Dr. Richardson practised as a surgeon for many years at Brentwood.

† The original name was Lilystones. It was then called Stock House, but the latter was pulled down by the present Mr. Johnson, who erected Woodlands upon the site. He sold it some years ago, since which it has changed hands several times.

Of the parties whom Morant states "have some land here," William Johnson was a wine merchant, and lived in a house at the foot of the hill, now occupied by Mr. Henry Thompson, organist, and called Eden Lodge. He has a head stone in Leigh Church-yard, and died March 10th, 1772, aged 102 years. Robert Austin owned Lapwater Hall. With respect to David "Harwich," the minutes of the family can be traced as far back as the registers exist. One of this family, a daughter* of Thomas Harridge, of Leigh, and afterwards of Rayleigh, was wife of Captain William Henry D'Aranda, R.N., son of Dr. D'Aranda, of Billericay, and grandson of the Rev. Dr. D'Aranda, rector of Burstead. These D'Aranda's were a French refugee family, and formerly spelt their name D'Arande.

There is a field near Turner's† corner that was waste 50 or 60 years since, but was enclosed about that period by John Joscelyne. It now belongs to his daughter Elizabeth, widow of Samuel Wendon, of Leigh, and is copyhold of Southchurch Hall.

Golden Griggs, of Messing, had formerly a piece of ground here, probably now absorbed into some of the neighbouring estates.

"Andrew Chapman and Lord Lands," partly freehold and the rest copyhold, consisting of nearly 16 acres, is a small farm on the crest of the hill, about half a mile to the west of the town of Leigh. The approach was formerly through "Chess Lane,"§ which was exchanged in Dr. Eden's time for a piece of land taken from Leigh Hall, called Sweetings, leading to the "Tikle."‡ There is a dangerous abyss as you approach

* She was sister of Mrs. Walker, of Eastwood, Mrs. Attridge, and Crisp Molineux Harridge. See Little Stambridge.

† At Turner's corner formerly stood one of the turnpike gates, a nuisance which was happily removed without the aid of "Rebecca." Another stood farther on by Hadleigh House.

§ Chess Lane is a corruption; it was formerly called Church Lane as shown by an old deed in 1718.

‡ The "Tikle" is a corruption of tile kiln field, now a meadow.

the house, known as Silvester's hole, caused by a land slip, probably owing to one of the numerous springs that are to be met with on the side of these cliffs. The deeds go back as far as 1718, when the Rev. Clement Hobson, of Eltham, in Kent, and Edward Butler, of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, Surrey, clothworker, then joint owners, sold the property to William Reynolds, formerly of Leigh, and afterwards of East Greenwich, oyster dredger, for the sum of £135. By will dated 1755 he bequeathed £5 to the poor of Leigh, £100 to William Carr, of Hawkwell, one of his executors; the sum of three guineas to William Johnson, of Leigh, to buy a mourning ring, and left this estate to his cousin, William Norris, of Tilty Grange, near Dunmow, Essex, and orders his body to be buried in his vault in Leigh church-yard, and all the bones that are in his Aunt Hutton's* grave and in the vault to be collected and re-interred in the same. This vault still exists, but the stone is much worn, being close to the footpath. William Norris sold this estate to David Harridge, of Pitsea, in 1760, for the sum of £210. He sold it in 1778 to Thomas Harridge,† of Leigh, wine merchant,§ for £400, who resold it in 1801 to John Osborne,† for £345, who made his will in 1839, dying the same year, leaving this property to his youngest son, William Osborne. The latter sold it to his eldest brother, John Osborne,

* William Hutton, fisherman, lived in a house that he bought of Sir Richard Haddock in 1707.

† This property was leased by William Reynolds to David Harridge, butcher, of Leigh, father of the above, in 1745, for 21 years at £13 19s. per annum.

§ He bought this business of John Harriott.

† John Osborne's wife, Charity, has an upright grave stone at the west end of this church-yard, who died August 2nd, 1786, aged 31. He left the Peter Boat, a public house in this village, to his grandson Josiah Osborne. His ancestor, John Osborne, was in possession in 1695. The property described as being situate between the tenements of John Skinner and Nathaniel Goodlad. His daughter, Susan, in 1730, married James Bristow, barber and perrywig maker, of Leigh. His son John was admitted to the Peter Boat in 1739, then aged 18, and his grandson, John, in 1781.

in 1840, who dying intestate, the family made an arrangement whereby Josiah Osborne, his youngest son, became possessor, with reversion to Joseph Henry, son of Joseph his eldest brother.

"Blacke House," or as it has been recently called Leigh House,* situate to the north-west of the churchyard, and having attached to it about 4 acres of land, has been the residence of one of the Leigh churchwardens for many years. This property was formerly in several moieties. In 1700 Elizabeth Stevens left this tenement and certain land to her daughter, Ann, the wife of Sir Edward Whitaker, of the parish of St. Anne, Westminster, knight, and her grandson Samuel Whitaker. The Whitaker family sold it in 1718 to Charles Perry, of Leigh. It was afterwards in Elizabeth Finch and John Finch of St. George in the East, Middlesex. They sold it to Giles Westwood, wheelwright, of Leigh, in 1755, who disposed of it in 1792, to John Loten, Collector of H. M. Customs at this port for 33 years, who added several rooms to the residence, and in 1800 enlarged the estate by the purchase of a freehold piece of ground, situate on the south, facing Chess Lane, of John Going. Two cedars planted by Loten still show the boundary. This plot is supposed to be the same as that mentioned in a deed in 1657, when Benjamin Powlter, mariner, sold a tenement, &c., called "Long Clerkes Shipman," to John Allbrow, butcher. John Loten† died in 1815 leaving it to his son, Captain John Loten, who dying in 1827, it was acquired by purchase by David Mountague, 31 years churchwarden of this parish, who, in 1852, increased the property by an addition of a small piece of land on the north, formerly part of Sweetings belonging to the Hall property. His wife (formerly Mary Cox, widow, whose maiden name was Pitcher) died in 1864, aged

* This must not be confounded with Lapwater Hall, likewise called Leigh House.

† See inscriptions.

90, and he followed her to that "bourne from whence no traveller returns" a few months later in November of the same year, aged 81 years. They are both buried in Leigh church-yard, with a monument. He was proprietor of the extensive brick and tile yard in the vicinity, the greater part of which is in the parish of Prittlewell. After his death Blacke's was sold to the present proprietor, F. C. Barker, Esq., in 1864.

According to a fragment of a parish book, 150 years old, this house was then known as "Blacke House." It may possibly have acquired this name from its colour, or from the following circumstance, as the house at one time bore a sinister character, being dreaded as haunted. Certain it is that in deepening a cellar Loten found under the stairs a human female skeleton, the bones of which were reinterred in sacred ground. The popular belief* was, the ghost no longer troubled the house, and it was no more heard of.

"Leigh Marsh" is in the parishes of Leigh and Hadleigh, and consists entirely of grazing ground. In ancient maps it is laid down as one of the Canvey Islands, and it was probably from this that Morant was led into the error of supposing that part of Canvey Island proper† was in this parish. The enclosure of the saltings belonging to this marsh, situate in this parish, was recently the subject of a law suit,§ and the owner was prevented from effecting his object, as it was alleged the reclamation would interfere with the

* Superstition has still its footprints in Leigh. A short time ago a man named Harvey fell from a wharf, and in his descent came in contact with a long rusty nail, whereby his arm was much lacerated. By the advice of some of his fellow workmen, the enraged nail causing the damage was mollified by an abundant covering of grease.

† Forty acres of Canvey Island were omitted to be mapped at the Commutation of tithes. The property has since that event been acquired by E. Woodard, of Billericay, who purchased it from King's College, Cambridge. It abuts upon the Waterside farm, and is nearly surrounded by Bowers parish. The omission of mapping seems to have occurred from misdirection to the apportioners and surveyors.

§ See Hadleigh.

rights of the fishery in the Ray. That part in Leigh parish was formerly called Oxfleet or Axefleet Marsh, and the part in Hadleigh, Haugness or Haughness Marsh. The deeds of the latter go back as far as 1714, and as in them Sir Henry Appleton is mentioned as a former owner, who, according to an inquisition held in 1634, was a large proprietor in Canvey Island (innd by Cornelius Vermuyden* and others in 1621) the probability is, that this marsh was partially innd at the same time, but 50 acres were innd in 1653, by John Stephens, mariner. In old time some of it was in the manor of Chalkwell Hall, in Prittlewell. The total quantity of acres in the Island, including the salt-ings, consists of 273 acres, 2 roods, 24 poles, of which 74 acres, 3 roods, and 38 poles, are in Hadleigh. The value of the property in the two parishes is about equal. The right of way to the Island for all purposes is through the Hadleigh Castle lane, but there is a passage for stock only through the channel and the street of Leigh, opposite Osborne House, but they were formerly landed at the strand and other places now wharfed up, The hard across the channel is now covered with mud.

From the deeds respecting Oxfleet we find a record of a fine in the 38th of Henry VIII (1547) between Thomas Malby, plaintiff, and J. Barnardeston and Mary his wife, deforciant of the moiety of the manor of Chalkwell and the moiety (*inter alia*) of 400 acres of marsh in Chalkwell, Prittlewell, and Leyght, &c. In 2nd Eliz. (1559) a fine passed between Arthur Malby, plaintiff, and Thomas Malby, cousin and heir of Thomas Malby, deceased, deforciant of the manor of Chalkwell, (*inter alia*) 200 acres of marsh in Chalkwell, Prittlewell, and Leigh, &c. In 43 Eliz. (1600) a fine passed between William Willoughby, Esq., and Thomas

* See Dugdale. There was a Colonel Vermuyden, in the Parliament army during the civil wars, supposed to be his son. See Carlyle's "Cromwell's letters and speeches." Vol. 1, page 185.

Rooke, Gentⁿ plaintiffs, and John Earlye, Esq., and George Earlye, Esq., and Elizabeth his wife, deforciant, of the manor of Chalkwell, and (*inter alia*) 500 acres of salt marsh in Chalkwell, Mylton, Leigh, Prittlewell, &c., with a warranty by the said John and George and Elizabeth against the heirs of Thomas Malby, Esq., deceased. On the 10th November, 11th of James I, (1613) there was an indenture between Sir William Willoughby, William Willoughby, and Thomas Malby, whereby they grant unto the said Thomas Malby and Alice his wife, the manor of Chalkwell and (*inter alia*) all that parcel of marsh ground called Axefleet, containing by estimation 200 acres, more or less, in the parish of Leigh, late in the tenure or possession of William Hare, Gent. On the 22nd of May, 1641, (17 Charles I) an indenture between Henry Coghill and Thomas Malby, son and heir of Thomas Malby, whereby Henry Coghill sells to Thomas Malby all the premises sold by Thomas Malby, the father, to the said Henry Coghill. Upon the 25th October, 1649, an indenture between Thomas Malby and Lambert Pitcher, whereby Thomas Malby sells to Lambert Pitcher and John Lagram all that piece of marsh ground commonly called or known by the name of Axfleet marsh, containing by estimation 200 acres, more or less, in the parish of Leigh. Upon 25th April, 1650, Lambert Pitcher sells the same to Peter Barret. Upon the 30th November, 1650, Lambert Pitcher and Peter Barret sell the same (described as in the occupation of — Staines) to John Stephens.* Upon the 26th February, 1666, William Haddock, surviving trustee and executor of John Stephens, sells the same to John Bradenham. Upon the 20th and 21st June, 1715, Anne Lockwood and others, sell to Abraham Mandrey and Thomas Baker that piece of marsh, part whereof was enclosed with a wall, and the rest encompassed

* It appears from an inquisition held 15 Charles II, that this John Stephens, circa 1653, reclaimed Leigh Marsh by the present sea wall.

with water commonly called or known by the name of Axefleet marsh, formerly in the occupation of Staynes, containing by estimation 50 acres within the walls and 50 of saltings without the walls, more or less, which premises were purchased by John Bradenham, dec^d, father of the said Anna Lockwood, &c., in which conveyance the said marsh was mentioned to contain 200 acres more or less. Upon 31st August and 1st September, 1719, Abraham Mandrey and Thomas Baker sell to Charles Mason. Upon 18th September, 1729, Charles Mason sells to Thomas Maling all that piece of marsh ground, part whereof was enclosed with a wall and the rest was encompassed with water, commonly called or known by the name of Axfleet marsh, containing by estimation 50 acres within the walls and 50 acres of saltings without the walls.

That part of Leigh marsh, situate in Hadleigh parish, called "Haugness" marsh, was sold upon the 11th January, 1714, by the Honorable Ralph Verney, containing 60 acres more or less, in the parishes of Hadleigh and Leigh, both, or one of them, to Samuel Tufnell, and covenants for safe possession as against himself and Sir Henry Appleton. Upon 12th and 13th September, 1729, Samuel Tufnell sells to Charles Mason, who purchased Axefleet marsh in 1719, and therefore united the two properties of Axefleet marsh and Haugness marsh, forming what is now called Leigh marsh. In 1736 Charles Mason gives to Michael Tayleure, who married his daughter, Haugness marsh and Axfleet marsh.* In 1746, in bankruptcy, the assigns of Michael Tayleure sell Haughness marsh and Axefleet marsh to Benjamin Smith. In March, 1752, the heirs-at-law of Benjamin Smith sell Haugness marsh and Axefleet marsh to John Highe and Fenwick Lyddal, containing 50 acres meadow, 50 acres pasture, and 200 of marsh and common of pasture.

* It appears from this, that Charles Mason had again obtained possession of Axfleet, which he had formerly sold to Thomas Maling.

In 1789 Christopher Highe, heir of John Highe, sells to William Sumner and Charles Edwards. In 1800 William Sumner sells to John Going, who died in 1806. In 1808 Going's executors sell to Peter Denys.* In 1838 Lady Charlotte Denys' trustees sell to Stephen Allen. Stephen Allen leaves it to his daughter, Charlotte Foster, who has recently sold the same to the Rev. Henry Highton, M.A., late fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, who resides at No. 2, the Cedars, Putney.

In some loose sheets of an old parish book, we find rated "Bonners pasture, Maggots land, Reynolds land, Thickenings, Long Clerkes, Allisons field, Tyle barn, and Black"

There was formerly a "bridle road" leading from the "town gate," (now no longer existing) in Leigh street, skirting the foot of the cliffs and running almost parallel with the railway, having gates falling both ways, and leading to the Castle lane, and so on to South Bemfleet.

Morant, whose statement from subsequent research has been found not strictly correct, gives the following account of the charities of the Moyer family towards this parish. "Captain Lawrence Moyer,† of Milton shore, in Prittlewell, son of James Moyer, of the same place, in commemoration of a deliverance from shipwreck in Leigh road, his ship being driven on the flats and sands, gave £100 to pay five pounds per annum for ever, to the town of Leigh, viz., to

* Peter Denys, of Hans Place, Chelsea, married in 1787, Charlotte, the only daughter of the second Earl of Pomfret, by whom he had a son, George William, who was born in 1788, and married in 1809, Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of E. G. Lind, of Burton, Westmoreland, and was created a Baronet in 1813. Lady Charlotte died in November, 1835. The purchase-money of Leigh marsh from Going's executors to Peter Denys was 3,000 guineas.

† The grandson of Lawrence Moyer, of Leigh, was a merchant, and in the time of the Commonwealth, Judge of the Court of Probate, whose eldest son, Samuel, was created a Baronet, and at whose death the title became extinct. The chief representatives of Lawrence Moyer now are Sir William Heathcote, Bart., Mr. Vernon Harcourt, and James Moyer Heathcote, of Connington Castle, Herts.

twenty poor seamen's widows, on the 6th of August, on which day a sermon is preached, and 20s. paid for it. This £100 was left to the masters of the Trinity House, to see it paid; but on their refusal his descendants see it constantly paid.

Mr. James Moyer, who lies buried in this Church, gave fifty pounds to the poor of this parish.

Sir Samuel Moyer,* Bart., erected a free school† in this town, for instructing children in the principles of the christian religion."

The Charity Commissioners in their report of Sir Samuel Moyer's charity, printed in 1839, say "Sir Samuel Moyer, Bart., by will dated the 17th May, 1711, (proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 17th May, 1716) bequeathed as follows; 'Item, I do give to the poor of Leigh, in the County of Essex, twenty pounds to be distributed according to my wife's direction; and whereas I have in my hands my grandfather, James Moyer, and my uncle, James Moyer, their legacies left to the town of Leigh for a sermon yearly, and an allowance to the poor which I have made up £200, for which have paid them yearly £10; now my desire is, that my executress would find out some way for securing £10 per annum for the same uses.' Dame Rebecca Moyer was the executrix

* Samuel Moyer was raised to the Baronetage in 1701, died in 1716, and was buried in the Church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, where there is a mural monument to his memory. He resided chiefly in that parish. Several of this family are buried at Low Leyton, where there is a large tomb with cupola, supported by columns and several slabs on the floor, containing memorials of this family. Upon these slabs the arms are "Lozenge shield, two chevrons each charged with a mullet of six points pierced. Crest, a cubit arm erect, habited, charged with a chevron and brandishing a sword." The whole race is now extinct in name.

† This School does not now exist, and it is doubtful what became of it, but it appears, May 27th, 1788, the materials of a small tenement, used as a poorhouse were sold by auction, by the parish officers, and were purchased by Thomas Harridge for eight guineas. The money was received by the overseers. This building stood on the fee simple of William Cockerton, (the successor of Martha Hall) who acquiesced in its disposal and afterwards, 18th December, of the same year, sold the land to Harridge. It was situate near the bottom of the hill, on the right hand side leading from the church to the railway crossing.

of her husband; she died about 1723, having appointed her daughter, Elizabeth Jenyns, sole executrix and residuary legatee. Mrs. Jenyns died about 1749, when administration was granted to Rebecca Le Bas, then Countess Harcourt, niece and administratrix of Mrs. Jenyns, of the goods of Dame Rebecca Moyer, her grandmother, left unadministered. It is probable that in the life-time of the Countess Harcourt, who was married to Simon, first Earl, this payment was charged on the real estate which she brought into the family, or on the original Harcourt estates, as the payment has been made since her death by the Earls Harcourt till the death of the Earl William, in 1830. Upon his death the Archbishop of York* succeeded to the estates held by the preceding Earls, as well as the original Harcourt estates as those derived from Miss Le Bas, under the will of George Simon, second Earl, and from that time his grace has paid the rent charge.

Out of this rent charge £1 1s. is paid to the officiating minister for preaching an annual sermon on the 6th of August, and 5s. to the parish clerk for his attendance on the occasion, and the remainder is distributed by the churchwardens indiscriminately amongst poor and decayed fishermen and fishermen's widows belonging to the parish, the share given to each varying from 5s. to 7s., according to the age of the object."

This charity has been in abeyance at several periods, and was recovered by the exertions of Dr. Cook and subsequently by others. It was at last misapplied, as labourers on the land occasionally received a portion of it. It has not been forthcoming for the last 30 years, and the answer is, it was not charged on the estates.

Canon Froissart, who flourished in the time of Richard II, relates that the body of Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, youngest brother of

* Dr. Venables Vernon.

that monarch, murdered at Calais by his connivance, was brought to Hadleigh Castle on its way to Pleshy for interment. If so, Leigh Swatch probably bore on its waves the vessel that conveyed the corpse and mourners upon that sorrowful expedition. Retribution quickly followed for this act of violence, for according to Leland, after the accession of Henry IV, John Holland, youngest half brother to the late King, Earl of Huntingdon, (his recently acquired title of Duke of Exeter, being revoked after an unsuccessful rebellion,) made his escape to Essex, and there took ship, but being driven back by contrary winds was taken at the Hamlet Mill, in Prittlewell, by the populace and carried to Pleshy, where the old Countess of Hereford, sister to Arundel, and mother-in-law of Gloucester, eager for vengeance, and afraid that her other son-in-law, King Henry, might spare him for the sake of his wife, Joan of Lancaster, caused him to be beheaded, after the tenants and servants of the late Duke of Gloucester had tortured and torn his body to pieces in savage vengeance for the wrongs he had done their master.

In 1406, King Henry IV had a narrow escape of being taken prisoner by the French pirates in crossing from "Shepye to Lee, on his way to Plashie." His object was to avoid London, as the plague was raging there. They succeeded in taking four vessels, and made prisoner Sir Thomas Hampston, the King's Vice-chamberlain.

Foxe relates that it was from Leigh that the Duchess dowager of Suffolk, first cousin of Queen Mary, and mother of Lady Jane Grey, escaped, being in danger for her reforming opinions and the malice of Stephen Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester. She was concealed at the house of one Gosling, a merchant. She was the wife of a Mr. Richard Buty, who had preceded her to the continent. History further records she passed the night at an inn in Leigh, before she

got on board ship, and ultimately joined her husband, and took refuge in Poland until Mary's death, being protected and placed in affluence by the monarch of that country.

We now come to notice Andrew Battell, of this parish, who contributed a narrative of his adventures, which were published by the Rev. Samuel Purchas, in the first part of the third edition of his pilgrimage, in 1617. From the circumstance of several of this name filling offices of trust in this Hundred, and Purchas, who then lived at Eastwood, styling him his near neighbour and friend, it is probable he was something above the grade of a common sailor, and it is evident he possessed more than ordinary intelligence, and had pushed his way into position even when in captivity. He accompanied Abraham Cocke, of Limehouse, who had command of the "Dolphin" and "May Morning," in the reign of Elizabeth, in his disastrous expedition to the river Plate, where he was taken by the "Portugals," on the coast of Brazil, and shipped over to Congo, where, and in the countries adjacent, he lived many years, and became sergeant of a band, &c. He served under Manuel Siluera Perera, governor under the King of Spain, at his city of St. Paul, and with him went far into the country of Angola, a province of Congo. He lived sixteen months with the Giacchi or Jagges, a tribe of savages, and is described as the only European who had lived in their camp. These wretches always buried their children as soon as born, to prevent the trouble of education, but continued the nation by preserving the boys taken in war, who were between ten and twenty years of age. These captives were obliged to wear a collar about their necks which was not removed until they had slain a man in fight. Purchas likewise mentions Nathaniel Salmon, master and commander of a small vessel called the Osiander, who, in company with the Dragon, Robert Bonner, master, defeated the

Portuguese fleet at Surat, in the East Indies, in the kingdom of the Great Mogul. He describes the Dragon throwing 639 great shot, and the Osiander 387 in the action.

Coming to our own times we have a man now in the Rochford Union House, formerly from Leigh, named John Johnson,* between 60 and 70 years old, who relates an adventure of his when 20 years of age. When in London he worked for the same shop, as a shoemaker, with Brunt and Tidd, executed for the Cato Street conspiracy, and although aware of something desperate going on, never attended any of the meetings, but was actually on his way to the loft where the conspirators assembled, and got as far as the public house called the "Good Woman," when he fortunately turned back. He was so far alarmed that he left for Chatham, where his deposition was taken, but he was not proceeded against. Being one day at Brunt's house, the latter exhibited one of the pikes intended to have been used at the assassination. Combustible materials were to have been fired in the hall, and the guests of Lord Harrowby massacred as they rushed out. Although for the most part needy, some of these men and their families were earning large wages. Johnson states these wretches were principally deists and atheists, and upon one occasion he had a pugilistic encounter, (being a methodist) to support his views. Cards were the amusement for Sundays, and to resist taxation these men patronized Hunt's radical coffee (prepared wheat) as a beverage.

Old inhabitants can remember two instances of whales being brought to this port, one was stranded (*circa* 1806) on Leigh marsh, and was 34 feet long. In its efforts to escape it floundered and threw its tail up to the height of ten feet, and was harpooned. The other monster, 46 feet in length, (*circa* 1826) was

* Not belonging to the old Johnsons of Leigh, but a new comer.

found on Foulness sands, and towed here, being lashed to a barge. The bones of the latter may yet be seen in the grounds of Middleton Hall, Prittlewell.

The Church is dedicated to St. Clement, who is referred to by St. Paul, (upon one occasion only) in his epistle to the Philippians iv chap., 3 verse. Under the name of Clemens Romanus* he is said to have been unanimously chosen by the presbyters of Rome to succeed Anacletus, and became third† Bishop of that See. Very little is known respecting him, except that he was of Jewish extraction. Numerous writings are ascribed to him, but all probably spurious, except one epistle to the Corinthians, written in the year 96, when Bishop of Rome, to certain that were creating divisions in the Church, a composition that was highly prized by the ancient christians, and even raised by some to the same level as the canonical books, but was long regarded by modern scholars as irretrievably lost. A copy however was happily found in the "*Codex Alexandrinus*," in which MS. it follows the New Testament writings, having apparently been read along with them, but esteemed of lower authority. It is a very beautiful composition, but it is disfigured by an allusion to the story of the Arabian Phoenix, in support of the doctrine of the resurrection from the dead. The so called 2nd epistle of Clement is accepted by some, but is of doubtful authenticity. He is supposed to have suffered martyrdom during the persecution under Trajan, A.D. 100, by being thrown into the sea with an anchor fastened round his neck, a truly marine dissolution. Part of his relics are preserved at the Church of St.

* See an article in Cassel's Dictionary of the Bible, and Milner's Church History.

† The theory of some is, that St. Peter nominated Clement for his immediate successor, but that either through humility or by divine inspiration, he did not accept that dignity until after it had been conferred upon Linus and Cletus, the latter of whom was martyred. A Fresco bearing upon this subject has lately been discovered in the underground Church of St. Peter at Rome, ascribed to the period between the eighth and eleventh century.

Clement, at Rome, and another portion sent by Pope Adrian, at the Abbey of Cava, in Abruzzo, four miles from Salerno, which abbey was founded by Louis Debonnaire.

Leigh Church occupies a noble site upon the brow of a steep hill overhanging the town and commanding a magnificent prospect over the estuary of the Thames. It is a spacious structure of the later perpendicular period, built entirely of Kentish rag, and comprises a nave and chancel with north aisle and chapel of corresponding length. This is a characteristic of most of the later perpendicular churches. At the west end of the nave is a fine and well proportioned tower rising to the height of 80 feet; on the south is a bold and spacious porch of brick of the Tudor style. The nave opens into the chancel by a wide arch of two reveals with hollow chamfered edges. It is of bad form and probably not ancient. The north aisle is separated from the nave by four pointed arches, also of two reveals similarly chamfered, and sustained by octangular columns, with moulded caps and bases resting upon plinths. The north chapel (not now distinguished as such) in continuation of the aisle, opens into the chancel by two arches of the same character, the easternmost of which is of much smaller proportions, lower and more acute. The chancel during the last century was greatly barbarized by former rectors, one of whom, to save the cost of re-glazing, blocked the south window with red brick. When the Church* was restored about the year 1837-8, the chancel appears to have been almost if not entirely rebuilt. Presumably the older chancel was of the time of Edward III, as the new east and south windows are in the style of that period, the east being supposed a reproduction of that which preceded it. It consists

* As late as the reign of Elizabeth there were in the windows of this Church the arms of England, Nevill, Bohun, Ormond, Le Marney, Rainsforth, Tyrell, Bouchier, Earl of Essex, Lord Rochford, (de Rochford) and Boleyn. All have long since disappeared.

of three cusped ogee lights, the head filled with reticulated flowing tracery in the Decorated style. This window at the period of the restoration was filled with a picture of the crucifixion, with the attendant figures of the B. Virgin, S. Mary Magdalen and S. John, a Roman soldier upon a white horse, and other accessories. It is much admired, but being in the style of the later masters, is destitute of the characteristics of ancient christian iconography and symbolism. The same may be said of the personification of Faith and Hope which occupy a double light window in the decorated style, on the south side. In the head are the arms of the See of London:—

“Gu. two swords in saltire arg., pomelled and hilted Or, impaling quarterly per fess indented arg. and az., a bend Gu.” for *Blomfield*, ludicrously surmounted by an archiepiscopal mitre.*

Beneath in a lozènge shield are the arms of the Right Hon. Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow, then Lady of the Manor:—

“Quarterly 1 and 4 arg. three roses a chief gu., 2nd arg. a bear ramp. sa. muzzled arg., *Bernard*; 3 arg. on a chief gu. two mullets pierced of the field *St. John*.” Another shield, “quarterly 1 and 4 gu. on a chev. arg. betw. three garbs or, as many escallops of the first, *Eden*; 2 & 3 az. betw. two chessrooks in fess an urn or, flammant ppr. *Smyth*, of London; impaling or. a fess chequy arg. and gu. between three buck’s heads caboshed, all within a bordure of the second, *Parke*.”

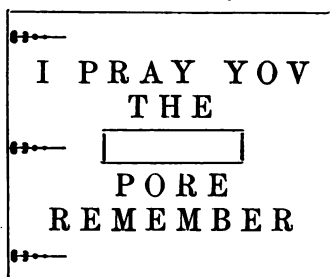
In the south wall is a priest’s door. A new reredos of stucco in the Decorated style, comprising four crocketed canopies, two on each side of the east window was also erected, containing the Creed, the Our Father, and the Decalogue in illuminated characters. The chancel is of one pace with the nave, the sacrarium only being elevated. The ceiling of the chancel, which to the eye appears to be of panelled oak, is merely plaster, grained, an architectural sham. In the nave are three

* There are said to have been Bishops of London who endeavoured to wrest the primacy from the See of Canterbury. Beaucis aspired to obtain an archiepiscopal pall for the See of London, either to supplant or rival Canterbury, (*Milman’s Annals of St. Paul’s*, p. 24,) but this ambition was never attributed to Bishop Blomfield.

Tudor windows upon the south, of uniform size and design, each of three lights, of late work, the sides perfectly straight, such as usually occur about the time of Henry VIII, but are possibly referable to the previous reign. The east and middle windows are filled with stained glass; the eastern one was presented to this Church by Mr. W. Foster, of Leigh, in 1867, and the middle one was a memorial to his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Mary Shaw, of this place, who died in 1868. This window illustrates the history of Dorcas. The south doorway is pointed, the outer mouldings consisting merely of a chamfer and round; the dripstone is square with horizontal returns. The roof is canted and ceiled to the rafters. In the aisle and chapel are four windows on the north side corresponding with those in the nave. Between them the north wall is set out externally, the recess blocked; it may have contained the rood stair, but appears to be set too far to the west. It was lighted by a narrow slit on the outer wall. If not for the stair, possibly it may have been a large aumbry. In the east wall of the chapel is a spacious 'perpendicular' window of four lights of good character, its head filled with mullioned tracery; the window at the west end is of identical size and design. The north doorway is blocked. The principals of the roof consist of six arches of timber, springing from corbels of grotesque demi-figures, holding plain shields. The roof is canted and ceiled. The interior, prior to 1837-8, was crowded with large and lofty closets. At the restoration these were judiciously swept away; but unfortunately the alteration was completed at too early a period to ensure an effective remedy. The sittings still retain almost as much the character of closets as open benches, though the standards terminate with carved finials which are more elaborated in the nave. The interior of the Church is greatly wanting in elevation, and the pews are too lofty. The

desk and pulpit are of oak, with traceried panelling, but both are placed in positions open to criticism.

Near the south doorway upon a wooden pedestal is an alms box of iron, fastened with three clasps and locks. It is probably of the 17th century, and upon it is inscribed in Roman letters,



Prior to the restoration of the Church, the font was of modern and barbarous character. It was replaced by another of quasi-perpendicular design. This was removed in 1871 and a third substituted, a copy of the font in the adjoining parish of Prittlewell. The latter has in one of its panels the badge of England and Arragon, the rose and pomegranate grafted, which denoted the period of its execution. Its reproduction upon a font made in 1871, may serve as a puzzle to antiquaries and ecclesiologists three centuries hence. We shall describe the *original* with its heraldic devices and christian symbols in its proper place.

The music of this Church, in 1837, and for many years prior, consisted of a violoncello, violin, flute and clarinet. In the year 1838 an innovation upon the old style was introduced by the Rev. R. Eden, who bought a small organ, which was placed in the gallery at the west end of the church. In a few years he replaced this from his own private means by another, built by Gray and Davidson, at a cost of nearly £200, and finally presented it to the parish upon his retiring from the cure. This instrument was removed in 1868

to the north aisle, it being a more convenient position for conducting the choral festival. It has since been remodelled by Henry Jones, of Fulham Road, at considerable expense, the rector, the Rev. W. King, his churchwarden, Mr. Barker, and the organist, Mr. H. Thompson, heading the subscription list by a donation of £25 each. A new swell organ was added; it now contains sixteen stops, with two rows of keys, and pedal pipes. The total number of pipes is about 700, and the improvement cost £160.

The Tower is a noble structure, built of Kentish rag, and covered on the north side with ivy planted by John Loten. It is in fine preservation, comprising a basement and three stories, terminating in an embattled parapet. Buttresses of four stages are set on the angles. A projecting stair turret is carried at the south-east angle, which rises octangularly above the battlements, and is also embattled. The several stories are divided by a string course, and a string is also carried beneath the battlements, enriched at the angles with grotesque gurgoyles. The western doorway is pointed, having a square label with horizontal returns, with plain escocheons in the spandrels. Over the doorway is a band of flint which has been injudiciously restored with "compo." The first story is lighted by a perpendicular west window with mullioned tracery. The basement opens into the nave by a 'perpendicular' arch of three reveals having hollow chamfered edges. There is one slender circular engaged shaft to each abutment, the bases resting on tall plinths. This floor is now divided into a vestry upon the north side, and light obtained by piercing the wall with a double light window of 15th century style. Light is admitted to the second story by single trefoil headed openings. The bell chamber is lighted by four square-headed windows, each of three cusped lights. Here is a peal of six well toned bells, three of which have lately been recast. Previous

to this event they bore the following inscriptions:—

- *1. Treble; The Rev, J. D. Hodge, Rector; Jno. Loten and Wm. Gillman, Churchwardens; John Going and Josh. Bright, overseers; Thos. Harridge, Richard Going, and William Simmons, Inhabitants; Thomas Mears, of London, *fecit* 1794.
- *2. Miles Gray made me 1672.
- 3. Miles Gray made me 1674.
- 4. John Going and Richard Gillman, Ch: wardens. Lester and Pack, of London, *fecit* 1753.
- 5. Thomas Mears, of London, *fecit* 1794.
- *6th Tenor; John Darbie made me 1682.

The Porch is a fine bold massive and durable structure. It is of red brick. The entrance is by a flattened Tudor arch, boldly moulded and stopped about half way down the jambs by a broad chamfer to the ground. Two hood moulds are placed over the entrance, the upper square, the lower corresponding with the form of the arch. These are united in horizontal returns, and in each spandrel is a trefoil. A window on each side of similar construction is divided by a single mullion, with hollow moulding. Buttresses of two stages are set on the angles. Strings are carried below the sills of the windows, and a row of trefoil headed enrichments are worked in flint near the base in front. In the gable is placed a stone sundial, dated 1729.

It is deeply to be regretted that during the alterations in 1837–8, several interesting historical monuments* were ruthlessly destroyed, among them the oval marble tablet† upon the exterior south wall

* These three bells have been recast by J. Warner and Son, London, 1870.

† A very large and elaborate painting on canvass of the Royal arms, with the quarterings of the House of Mecklenburg Strelitz, was destroyed at the same period. It is due to the present rector of Leigh to say that all tablets, brasses, or monuments, lost or destroyed at this period, and subsequently, occurred previous to his incumbency, neither has he the custody of any at the present moment.

‡ Erected owing to the remonstrances of Dr. Cook, in 1765.

of the chancel, in memory of Nicholas Haddock, of an ancient Leigh family, (one of the most distinguished of England's admirals, who has conferred much honor upon the town and county) besides other sepulchral memorials of almost unique character, emblazoned and illuminated, which were removed from the church at the same time, and barely escaping destruction, were recovered with difficulty. Some of these were afterwards *disposed* of, as we shall hereafter show. Nicholas Haddock and his illustrious father, Admiral Sir Richard Haddock, who was born here, lie interred with their ancestors in the churchyard. Dunkin's history of Kent contains an article on the Haddock family, contributed by H. W. King, Esq., from which and other sources we condense the following account. For at least four centuries the successive generations were seated in the town of Leigh. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries many of them rose to eminence in the naval profession; two of them became celebrated admirals, and seven, captains. During the period this family flourished they produced more naval officers than all the county besides. With the exception of the last generation they were born and interred at Leigh, but some of them connected themselves with the county of Kent, and represented the city of Rochester in parliament, and the two last heads of the house fixed their habitation at Wrotham Place, in Kent. The first mention of the family is in a record of an inquisition taken in the first year of Edward III, of an insane person, who has been already mentioned in the account of the estates in this parish. There is nothing further known of the family for more than a century. The next trace of them which we meet with, is an inscription upon a stone now in the north aisle of this Church, which records the interment of Richard Haddock, with Christian and Margaret his wives; and John Haddock, son of the aforesaid Richard and Christian, with Alice

his wife, which Richard Haddock died 11th November, 1454. This stone was formerly in the north chapel. Upon it, engraved in brass, are the effigies of Richard Haddock and probably his second wife, with John Haddock, and his wife. Under the first man is a group of ten sons, and under the last woman eleven daughters. From the fact of their interment within the church, and from the costume in which they are portrayed, they were evidently persons of superior station. The inscription is as follows, in black letter :—

"Hic jacent Ricus Haddok & Christina ac Margareta uxores ei' & Johes Haddok, filius dictor'. Ricci & Cristine; ac Alicia, ux' dei Johis : qui q'dm, Ricus obiit 11 die Novembr', Ao Dni MCCCCLIII q'r' aëbus p' p'ciat de'."

The family from this period are entirely lost sight of till the seventeenth century, when captain Richard Haddock first distinguished himself as a naval officer. His successive descendants, adopting the same profession, served their country for nearly one hundred years, several of them attaining to the highest rank in the service. The next monument relating to them is one at the east end of the churchyard, being a slab of black marble, supported by stone pedestals, and thus inscribed :—

"This tombe was erected by Sir Richard Haddock, Kt. in memory of his Grandfather, Capt. Richard Haddock, who died 22 May, 1660, aged 79 years. As also his father, Capt. William Haddock, who died 22 September, 1667, aged 60 years. And his mother, Anna Haddock, who died 6 January, A.D. 1688, in the 78 year of her age, who all lie underneath in the vault. Also the body of Dame Eliz. Haddock, wife of Sir Richard Haddock, who died 26 Feby. 1709-10, aged 59 years. As also the body of Sir Richard Haddock, Comptroller of his Majesties Navy, who died 26 January, 1714-15, aged 85 years."*

Captain Richard Haddock, the first whose death is recorded upon the above monument, resided at Leigh, and in 1652 received a reward of forty pounds from parliament for his public services. William, his son, commanded the *America*, a ship fitted out at the

* In the "life of Samuel Pepys," by the Rev. John Smith, are two letters addressed to Sir Richard Haddock by Pepys.

expense of parliament. His commission, signed by Blake, Topham, and Deane, was long preserved among the family archives. He distinguished himself in the memorable action with the Dutch fleet, in 1653, and was honored by Cromwell and his parliament with a gold medal, and having acquired a competence, he retired to his native place, where he purchased lands. His son, Sir Richard Haddock, was captain of the *Royal James*, the flag ship of the Earl of Sandwich, at the battle of Solebay, in 1672. This vessel having taken fire, Captain Haddock, though wounded in the foot, was almost the only officer who survived the destruction of the ship. After entreating the Earl to quit the vessel, which he refused, finding further efforts fruitless, he saved his own life by committing himself to the deep, and was providentially picked up. On his return, as a mark of royal favour, King Charles took a satin cap from his own head and placed it on that of Sir Richard. This cap was long preserved in the family, with an account of the circumstance of the gift pinned to it. After other distinguished services, in which he commanded the *Royal Charles*, the flag ship of Prince Rupert, he had conferred upon him the appointment of Commissioner of the Navy, and was knighted in 1675, and in 1678 was chosen to represent Aldborough in parliament, and in 1685 was returned for Shoreham. From 1683 to 1690 he was first commissioner of the victualling office. After the accession of William, Prince of Orange, he became Comptroller of the Navy, which office he held till his death. In 1690 he was appointed joint Commander-in-Chief of the fleet, with Admiral Killegrew and Sir John Ashby, in the expedition against Ireland. After this event he resigned his commission and passed many years in honourable retirement, and died as we have seen recorded on his tomb. The parish register informs us that his death took place in London, and that he was interred at Leigh on the 6th February.

Richard Haddock* was the eldest son of this distinguished Admiral, and entered the Navy in 1692. He was appointed Comptroller of that service in 1734, and held the office for fifteen years. He died at Mile End, London, in 1751. His name is not inserted upon the tomb at Leigh, but the entry in the register fixes it as the place of his interment, "Richard Haddock, Esq., late comptroller of H. M. Navy, buried in his father's tomb,† Sir Richard Haddock, April 21, 1751." Not far from this vault is another built by Admiral Nicholas Haddock, of Wrotham Place, (as we are told by Hasted) some years prior to his decease. Upon the stone are cut the following arms§ in a lozenge shield:—

Arg. a cross sa. in the first quarter a fleur-de-lis of the second. Crest, a demi-swan, wings expanded.

Beneath are the following inscriptions:—

"In memory of Lydia Haddock, who died March 22nd, 1732, aged 19. Also Frances Haddock, who died November 22, 1735, aged Also Nicholas Haddock, Esquire, Admiral of the Blue, who died Sept. 26, 1746, aged 60."

This Admiral Nicholas Haddock was the third and youngest son of Sir Richard Haddock, knight. He went to sea very early, and at little more than twenty years old was appointed captain. In the command of the *Grafton*, seventy guns, in the action with the *Spaniards* off Sicily, under Sir George Byng, he led the van and attacked and disabled four ships of heavy metal in succession. After divers achievements he became Rear Admiral of the Blue, and hoisted his flag

* For further notices of this family the reader is referred to "The Archaeological Mine," part xxxi, wherein is contained the whole of the extracts relating to the sepulture of this family taken from the Leigh registers, many of which are not recorded on the monuments.

† Dr. Cook, a physician of Leigh, in a letter to the author of the *London Magazine*, contradicts this, saying that he was an eye witness to the comptroller being buried in a distinct vault built by Admiral Nicholas Haddock, of Wrotham Place.

§ The family were not entitled to bear arms, never having obtained a grant, but assumed the arms of Haydocke, of Hants.

on board the *Namur* of ninety guns, as third in command of the fleet, collected under Sir John Norris, at Spithead. Amongst other services he was employed in 1740 in making reprisals upon the Spaniards for their depredations, and among his prizes were two ships said to be worth two millions of dollars. In 1741 he was promoted to be Vice Admiral of the Blue, and so highly were his services esteemed for protecting trade in the Mediterranean, that the Italian merchants addressed the Lords of the Admiralty in a letter of thanks, and presented the admiral with a magnificent gold cup. After passing through the various grades, he was advanced to be Admiral of the Blue. He died universally esteemed, and his portrait is preserved in the collection at Greenwich Hospital. When the admiral was dying he called his son and said, "Considering my rank in life and public services for so many years, I shall leave you but a small fortune, but, my boy, it is honestly got and will wear well; there are no seamen's wages or provisions, nor one single penny of dirty money in it."* The admiral twice represented Rochester in parliament. He was returned with D. Polhill, Esq., in 1734, and re-elected with E. Vernon, Esq., in 1741. The male line of this family is now extinct.

The monument to Captain John Rogers, formerly in the chancel, was removed from thence at the restoration in 1837, and lay with others to the Hare family for several years in a loft over the rector's stable, and then removed to the floor of the vestry. About 1858 these tablets were clandestinely removed from thence. The fate of the latter is unknown, but that to the gallant Rogers, after being mutilated, the inscription obliterated, and the arms defaced, was adapted to a cupboard door in the village. It consisted of an oak panel with arms and inscription richly emblazoned, and had on it—

* Scott's Magazine.

"Neare this place lyeth Captain John Rogers, who, after several commands at sea executed with great courage and fidelity, was made captain of his Majesties ship, the Unicorn, in which he behaved himself with incomparable valour and conduct in three bloody engagements with the Dutch in 1672 for which he was advanced to be captain of the 'Royal Charles,' and then of the 'Henry.' He was buried to the great grief of all who knew him Nov. 30, 1688, after he had lived in this town 36 years. He died aged 65. Richard Rogers placed this as a memory of filial respect for his worthy father. Arms, 1 and 4 arg., a mullet sa., on a chief gu. a fleur-de lis Or. 2nd and 3rd, Arg. a fret sa, and a chief Gu. Crest, a fleur-de-lis Or."

These arms are those of Rogers, quartered with those of the ancient and knightly family of Eckingham. See Charnock's *Biographia Navalis*.

There are several monuments and inscriptions in this church to the Salmon family, who resided here for three centuries, and were an opulent mercantile and maritime family. The first notice of them was on a stone in the north chapel, which contained a brass having the effigies of a man, and this:—

"*Hic jacet Roberts Salman, Alicia, & Johna. ux. ejus, q̄i quide Roberts ob, 15 Sept. 1472. Quorum, &c.*"

This historic relic is supposed to have disappeared at or about the restoration in 1837–8. The next is for Thomas Saman, who was churchwarden in 1552. It was formerly in the north chapel, but is now on the pavement of the south aisle, and on a brass plate is inscribed,

"Thomas Saman, of the age of 70 years, a man worthy of praise,
Frende unto the Frendles, a Father to this Town,
Styll maintain good things and evill to throwe downe;
Grandfather unto Thomas Saman, of the age of fourteen yeres, who both in
one Day departed this Life 5 Aug., 1576."

On the floor of the north chapel is a black stone, upon which is engraven on a brass plate,

"Here lyeth Robert Salman, who took to wife Agnes, with whom he lived thirty-two years, and had issue by her, sixe Sonnes and foure Daughters.
Ob. 6 Sept. 1591, æt. 58."

Upon the wall of this chapel is a black mural monument with a finely executed bust of Robert Salmon,

Esq.* This monument has been moved a few feet further to the east than it was originally erected. A stone on the floor below shows the place of his sepulture, and records he was born in this town in 1566, and buried 18th June, 1641. Upon the monument are his arms:—

Sa. 3 Salmons haurient in fess Or.; impaling Or., on a bend engrailed between 2 cottises sa., three mullets of the field—*Andrews*.

"Memoria et Honori Sacrum Magno Reipublicæ Instrumento et Ornamento Roberto Salmon Armigero, Rei Nauticæ an. 1614, pene extinctæ Restauratori, Domus Trinitatis 1617 Magistro et Gloriæ; Vicecomiti London 1640 electo, Viro Religione in Deum, Probitate in omnes æternum imitando ob. 1641, ætat 74, et hic cum Majorib^s 300 instar annorum Jesum suum expectat.

To y^e Memory of y^e Right Worthy & Worl^d.

Robert Salmon, Esquire,

That great instrument of God's glory and y^e commonwealths good, y^e restorer of Navigation almost lost 1614. M^r. of y^e Trinity house 1617 & the glory of it 24 yeares, chosen Sheriff of London 1640 whose solid Judgement, Acute Witt, Uprightness to all, true piety to God, require Admiration & Imitation. Hee died to y^e loss of all but his great comfort, June 18th, 1641 in his 74 yeares; was interred with his ancestors of above 300 yeares continuance in y^e grave of his Father in this Chancell, where hee expecteth a joyfull Resurrection.

Doe: (Marble stone) preserve his name

And bee y^e treasurer of his fame,

But if thou faile, his name will bee,

A lasteing Monument to thee."

On a slab in the chancel are brasses with effigies of Captain John Price, of St. Clement's Danes,† and

* One of his sons died during the life-time of his father, and his grandson Robert, of Leigh, was amerced by the parliament committee in the sum of £120 for his loyalty to Charles I. Another son, Peter Salmon, was an eminent physician in the 17th century; educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, and a graduate in arts and medicine of the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford, and Padua.

† Hone's Every Day Book, tells us that Protestants in London are reminded of St. Clement's apocryphal death by his anchor being the weather-cock that "turns and turns" to every wind, on the steeple of the parish church of St. Clement's Danes, in the Strand. It denotes the efflux of time as a minute hand upon the clock; and denotes the limits of the parish as a mark upon the boundary stones. The monks who compiled a catalogue of flowers for each day in the year, and devoted each flower to a particular

Martha his first wife, with inscription and arms.

"Three chevrons for *Price*, impaling a lion ramp. for *Godman*, of Bristol. Crest, a holy lamb nimbed, and sustaining in his right foot a flag staff, surmounted with a cross, attached thereto a pennon charged with a cross, and floatant to the sinister.

Here rests in hopes of a glorious resurrection to everlasting life, the bodies of Captain John Price,* and of Martha his first wife; she was the daughter of Thomas Godman, of ye city of Bristoll, Esqre and departed this life the 22nd day of October Anno Dom. 1696. He was borne in Cardiffe in Glamorganshire, was commander of severall ship's of war during ye reign of King William of glorious memory who honoured him with his particular favour & esteme & continued in ye service of his country under her present majtie with great fidelity, bravery & success. He departed this life the 1st day of Aprill Anno Dom. 1709."

On the south wall is a white marble tablet—

"To the memory of Mrs. Martha Price, second wife of Captain Price, with whom she is inter'd near this place. She was a daughter of Robert Yates, Esqr., one of the aldermen of the city of Bristol. Was married 22d February, 1699. Dyed 24 December, 1731."

Upon a stone in the chancel is a brass plate with the effigies of four sons and a daughter of Richard Chester, with this inscription:—

"Underneath this stone lyeth buried the body of Richard Chester, of this Pish, Mariner, who whilst he lived was one of the elder Brothers of the Trinity house and was Mr of the said society in the yere of our Lord 1615. He lived in marriage with Elizabeth his wife about 49 yeers, by whom he had issue 4 sonns & one daughter of wch number only George and Robert Chester his sonns & Elizabeth his daughter survived him; he deceased the 5th day of Aprill 1632 & his said two sonns George and Robt placed this stone here in remembrance of their said deceased Father."

At the foot of the steps leading to the pulpit is a stone

Saint, (on account of its flowering about the time of the Saint's festival) dedicated the Convex Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis convexula*) to St. Clement. He is the patron of blacksmiths. Children formerly were accustomed to be decked and go about on St. Clement's day, in procession, and gatherings were made by others on the night of this festival to beg drink to make merry with, and in reference to which a pot was formerly marked against the 23rd of November, in the old clog almanacs.

* Vide Charnock's *Biographia Navalis*.

"To y^e memory of James Moyer,* Merchant, who deceased y^e ix day of May 1661 in Redriff,† aged 44.

Least that the World concealed His Worth,
This Very stone Will speake it forth.
Pious He was, accounted Just
These are the Perfumes to His Dust.

A jewell he had which good men prise,
Plaine Dealing in His Merchandise,
Like the good Merchant with much Pain,
The Pearle oth Gospell He did Gaine."

There are several monuments and inscriptions to the Stevens and Whitaker families. On a stone in the aisle is—

"Here lieth the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens, who departed this life the 10th day of October 1700 in the 69 years of her age."

On another close by is—

"Here lyeth y^e Body of Mrs Mary Whitaker late wife of Capt. Samuel Whitaker who departed this life y^e 28th day of April 1698 in the 22^d years of her age."

There is a white marble monument on the wall of the north aisle, (removed from the chancel in 1837) upon which is inscribed—

"Near this place lyes interred the body of Dame Anne Whitaker, late wife of Sir Edward Whitaker, Knt. who departed this life the 17th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1705, æt. 33. Sa. a fess between 3 mascles arg.—*Whitaker*; impaling, arg. on a chevron Gu., 3 cross crosslets Or., between as many demi-lions ramp. Sa. — *Stevens*. Crest, a horse passant, Sa."

In Charnock vol. ii, p. 366, and in Lediard vol. ii, book 5, we have some account of the Whitakers. Thomas Stevens, of Leigh, surgeon, had three daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Chester Moor, Esq., Ann, wife of Sir Edward Whitaker, and Mary, wife of Captain Samuel Whitaker his brother. Sir Edward died 20th November, 1735, and lies buried in Carshalton Churchyard, Surrey, under a flat stone enrailed. He

* Salmon says he gave £50 in money to the poor of this parish.

† Rotherhithe was commonly written Redriffe, and is still generally so pronounced by seafaring people.

was Admiral of the White at the time of his death. His brother Samuel was Flag Captain to Sir Cloudesley Shovel, and was drowned with that Admiral 23rd October, 1707. Sir Edward was a kinsman of the distinguished Admiral Sir Richard Haddock of this place.

There were formerly in the chancel two oak panels to the Hare family. One to Jane, daughter of Samuel Hare, Esq., *ob.* 1669.

In a lozenge, Gu., 2 bars, a chief indenteed, Or.

Another to Katherine Hare, second daughter of Richard Edwards, of Arlsey, Co. Bedford, Esq., and wife of Richard Hare, citizen and mercer of London, *ob.* 5 June, 1668.

Gu. 2 bars, a chief indenteed Or., charged with a mullet Sa.—*Hare*; impaling per bend sinister Sa. and Erm, a lion ramp, Or., *Edwards*.

Nere this place lyeth the body of Jane, fourth daughter of Samuel Hare, Esq., and of Elizab. his Wife, daughter of Rich Edwards of Arlsey, Co. Bedford, Esq., *ob.* 12 Feb. 1664."

Several of the Hares in the time of Purchas were mariners at Leigh. From John Hare, of Leigh, mariner, who died in 1572, descended Francis Hare,* successively Prebendary of St. Paul's, Bishop of St. Asaph, and at length Bishop of Chichester, who died in 1740. The lineal representatives are the Hares of Hurstmonceaux Castle, Co. Sussex, and some others.

Morant mentions Justice Hare, of Leigh, as a landowner in Wallasey Island, and from an account of public houses and taverns published in 1636, by John Taylor, the water poet, we find that James Hare was a publican† here, and may possibly have kept the

* In the registers, date 1735, is a notice of Mrs. Constance Hare, from St Andrew's, Holborn, being interred in the chancel.

† Publicans and innkeepers (of whom Abraham Mandrey, of Leigh marsh was one) were often men of superior position, and were almost invariably brewers before the trades were divided. At Romford the chief innkeeper was a gentleman of coat armour, owning a mansion and estate there (*temp.* Eliz.) The term "fisherman or dredger," in old time must frequently be understood as meaning an owner of fisheries; the description "mariner" includes opulent merchant captains and shipowners; "butcher" often implies a more wealthy man, and higher grade than now. They were commonly great cattle dealers, though they killed and sold meat.

Queen's Head, since occupied as a distillery, and now known as Eden Lodge, opposite the railway crossing, or he may have been landlord of the Crown, which once faced the strand.

There is a brass in the south aisle to George Ireland who died February 21st, 1570, with some verses not now discernible. In the area of the church, a stone to four "children of Thomas Printupp, of Leigh, mariner, by his third wife Anne, daughter of Daniel Mansfield, late citizen and haberdasher of London. Two died in 1662 and two in 1667." Another to "Charles Horwell, gent., who died 30th Sept., 1714, aged 44." Under the west window of the south aisle is a blue slab (removed from the vault) :— "In memory of Frances Swainson, wife of John Timothy Swainson, of London,* *obt.* 7th June, 1792, in the 24th year of his age, and, on the 6th March, 1793, death deprived him of his daughter Betty Swainson, in the 9th year of her age, whose remains are also interred here."

In the north chapel was formerly a brass with this.—"Heare under, lieth buried Mary Bonner's body, late wife of John Bonner, who had issue by her eleven sons and eight daughters, *ob.* 26th Jan., 1580." The name of Bonner occurs in this and in the adjoining parish of Prittlewell throughout the 16th and 17th centuries, chiefly in the maritime profession. Robert Bonner, Master of the Dragon (whose journal is mentioned by Purchas) was at the time of his death of Bristol.

On a slab by the Belfry are inscriptions to the Cook family, once noted in Leigh. The vault was constructed in 1736, and the remains of several of the family were removed at that time from their former place of sepulture and deposited therein, including "Mrs. Anna Thomson, of London, widow, mother of

* He was secretary to the Hon. Board of Customs, and afterwards collector of H.M. Customs at Liverpool. The Registers state they lived at St. Mary's, Newington, Surrey.

Mrs. Cook, who died in Leigh August 5th, 1712, aged 67, also Mrs. Elizabeth Cook,* late wife of Mr. John Cook, senior of this parish, who died 1 Jany. 1718, aged 30 years, also John Cook,† gent., who died September 8th, 1726, aged 48 years, also Mrs. Ann Foster, of London, sister of Mrs. Cook, who died at Leigh Jany. 28th 1734-35, aged 51. Also Dr. John Cook,§ many years physician of this place, who died June 13th, 1777. He recovered the widows' charity which had been lost 20 years; also Mrs. Eliz. Cook, wife of John Cook, M.D., who died Decr. 19th, 1707, aged 52 years." The charity here alluded to was that of the Moyers which was temporarily paid, then refused, again stopped, and now irretrievably lost. Dr. Cook was the son of the above John Cook, of Leigh, surgeon, and the family originally came from Scotland. His first wife was Susanna, daughter of Francis Heber, of Hadleigh, who died in 1728, and his second was Elizabeth, daughter of Lemuel Bradley, of London, (steward to the Archbishop of Canterbury,) who owned Burnt-oak farm. He had many children by this last, most of whom died young. His eldest son was the Rev. John Cook, LL.B., Rector of Fenstanton *cum* Hinton, Co. Camb., Fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, who died unmarried in 1802, another, George, was a surgeon at Prittlewell, and Lemuel, a surgeon, of Leigh, who left no issue, and the family is now extinct in name. Dr. Cook was a man of considerable learning and a contributor of articles to magazines. He had a fine library, and although he may have collected books on necromancy or astrology, as many scholars do from curiosity, he was decidedly a religious Christian, and

* Upon her burial the registers state that 50s. was given to the poor of the parish, as a fine for the privilege of being buried in linen. The same fine occurred upon the burial of Mrs. Martha Haddock, wife of Captain Richard Haddock, in 1722. This was in accordance to the statute then in force, 30 Car. ii. c. 3, for burying in woollen.

† According to the Registers, he was 26 years Apothecary in this town.

§ See Foulness and Hadleigh.

a member of the Church of England. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated in medicine (M.D.) He was author of some medical works and numerous medical and scientific papers in the magazines of the day. He had some peculiar ideas respecting the unseen world, and believed in supernatural visitations and friendly visits from spirits, and his will shows how careful he was they should not be offended. He published a remarkable letter upon this subject about 1760 or 1770 in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. His supernatural visitor was in no sense what is called a "familiar," but his belief was entirely of a religious tone, nothing of diablerie or magic enters into it. He believed in the existence of certain spiritual and benevolent beings intermediate to earth and heaven, who were able to and did convey certain intelligence to certain of the human race, though all persons were not the subjects of such communications. He was one of those who were, and he believed that the visitant to his house was a benevolent and beneficent spirit. The hatchment put up in this Church upon the death of his son, the Rev. John Cook, was destroyed in 1837. The arms were—

1 Gu. on a bend or., 2 cinquefoils az. in sinister chief, a crescent arg., charged with a cross-crosslet fitché of the field. Motto, *Suum cuique*—for Cook, of Pittenweem, Scotland. Their crest was a sea-cat issuant.

The house where Dr. Cook resided in Leigh is still extant, it is some centuries old, and one of the tallest in the village. As may be supposed, for many years a troubled spirit was thought to haunt its precincts, and at one time it was shut up, owing to the terror occasioned. The ground floor is considerably below the level of the highway, it possesses an ancient oak staircase, and large old fashioned fire-places. It is situated near the middle pump on the south side of the railway, which latter absorbed the garden thereto belonging.

In the church-yard, south east of the church, are two tombs of the Goodlad family, of whom ten or twelve, all mariners, were contemporary with Purchas, of Eastwood. One stone slab raised on brickwork has

"Here lyeth the body of Sarah, late wife of Capt. Richard Goodlad ;* ob- 9, Nov. 1685. æt. 41. Here lodgeth the body of Captain [Richd Goodlad Esqr. who put off mortality Oct^r 18th 1693, aged 58 years."†

Upon another tomb is "Here lieth, expecting the second coming of his Saviour, Captain William Goodlad, Chiefe Commander of the Greenland Fleet 20 years, and Master of the Trinity-House in 1683. ob. 13 Jan. 1689, æt. 62. Here lieth interred the body of Mr. Richard Goodlad, Woollen-Draper, of London, the son of Captain William Goodlad and Ann his wife, of Leigh, Ob. 11 June, 1690, in 61 year of his age, Also of Eliz. Goodlad, his widow, Ob. 28 Jan. 1712, æt 81."

There are some eulogistic verses on the south side of this tomb, describing the captain as a "worthy, able seaman, well approved, just unto all, and well beloved." A hatchment containing the arms of this family was destroyed in 1837.

"Lozenge. Per. pale Vert and Erm, an eagle displayed Or., for Goodlad, impaling Arg., 2 bars Gu."

Upon a flat stone raised on brick work at the south east corner is—

"Here lies in hopes of a joyful resurrection the body of Mary Pully, daughter of Mr. John Skinner, of this place, and wife of Richard Pully, Gent. of the same place, deceased, by whom she had Issue John, Otho, William, Mary, and Rachel. Wch S D. Mary out of her dutiful remembrance laid this stone. She died ye 30th July 1662.

Itura ad superos Christi virtute resurgam,

Hoc licet in tumulto putrida membra jacent."

Arms in a lozenge, 3 eagles displayed. Pully.

The above named Richard Pulley§ was a lawyer,

* In a sermon upon the death of Mrs. Dorothy Freeborne, in 1658, by Thomas Peck, M.A., preacher of God's word at Prittlewell, and published in 1671, we find she was mother of a Captain Richard and Captain William Goodlad. See Prittlewell.

† There are six verses on this tomb. They appeared in print in the East London Observer of 25 March, 1871, being a contribution to that paper by Mr. W. F. Noble, of great Dover Street, London.

§ Richard Pulley, Gent., John Bundoche, and Richard Haddock, were elders of the Church of Leigh, during John Argor's incumbency. (See David's Annals of Evangelical Nonconformity) There was a William Pulley, rector of Ashingdon, who died in 1640.

who acted officially under the county committee for sequestrations. He was lord lieutenant and vice admiral of Essex in 1633. (See two letters of his written in that capacity, December 13 and 16. Calendar of State Papers Dom. Ser. Ch. 1. cclii. 44. 52.) In a volume of letters at the Record Office (*Interregnum Essex*) for the year 1650, he is spoken of as now deceased, and as having been very negligent. By his first wife Dorothy (buried in Prittlewell Church in 1618) he had the Rev. Richard Pulley, settled as rector of Fordham, May 20th, 1646. He is supposed to be identical with Richard Pulley, who resigned the living of Thundersley, in 1646. He was implicated in the Royalist rising in 1648, and his estate, both real and personal, was sequestrated. (Harl. M. 6244) He was minister at Wickford in 1650, and again in 1672. He was a Merchant Taylors boy, (Wilson's history of M. T. School i.) From the Wickford registers we learn that his first wife, Bridget, was buried December 17th, 1652. His eldest son, Richard, was baptized June 16th, 1650, and was buried September 10th, 1652. John Pulley, his son, (afterwards rector) was baptized December 17th, 1652. Bridget, his daughter, was buried May 5th, 1653. There is a memorandum that on October 13th, 1672, he read the nine and thirty articles of religion, agreed upon in the convocation holden at London, in the year 1562, in the parish church of Wickford, and gave his full and free assent thereto in the presence of Richard _____ churchwarden, his mark, &c., &c. His second wife was Mrs. Sarah Ellyott, whom he married in London the 24th September, 1653. She was widow of James "Eliott," of Rayleigh, gent., and had previously been the wife of James Gilbert, of the same place. Richard Pulley died in 1677, and was succeeded by his son John above mentioned, in the rectory of Wickford. His first wife, "Ffransis," was buried July 24th, 1681. His son John "Ffransis" Pulley was baptized August

1, of the same year, and other members of his family were buried in 1683. His second wife was named Elizabeth, whose daughter Mary was buried March 15, 1685-6. There is a further entry that the great gate of the church-yard was made by his order in 1689, and Newcourt reports him the "present rector in 1700."

Near this tomb is another, with an inscription almost obliterated, to the memory of Richard Harris, Esq., born in Leigh, in the reign of Elizabeth, who appears to have been an Elder Brother of the Trinity House, and as far as can be deciphered, an Officer of the Royal Navy.

There are other stones to

"John Flower, Maryner, who died 10 Aug. 1641. To William Hampton, Citizen, Ironmonger, and Merchant Adventurer of London, ob. 22 Apr. 1624."

And a brick altar tomb of the Allison family, who owned several small copyholds in this place.

"Jane, late wife of James Allison, Gentl, ob. Octr. 26. A.D. 1709, aged 57 years, and James Allison, Gentleman, ob. 11 June, 1714, aged 68.

There is a flat stone on the south-east side of the church, formerly surmounting an altar tomb, with this:—

"Here lyeth the body of John Bundoocke Maryner, who dyed ye 13 of August, 1601, aged 42, alsoe ye body of John Bundoocke his sonne, maryner, who was born in Aprill 1580 and dyed ye 9th of Aprill, 1652, aged 72 years. Mrs Kathern Bundoocke* dyed 14th of July, 1727 aged 79 years. Mrs. Judith Boise, dyed ye 19th of Jan., 1733-4 aged 77 years."

On the south side of the path is another Ledger of the Bundoocke s.

"To Captain John Bundoocke of St. Catherine's near the Tower, who died 28th Aug^r. 1660, aged 58."

From an old deed still extant in Leigh, we find that a John Bundoocke owned a tenement and part of a wharf, situate at the east end of the town of Leigh, and four

* There are several Bundoocks now residing at Leigh, whose family came from Maldon and Woodham Mortimer, but who claim no affinity with the above.

acres of wood land, more or less, near Nobles Green,* Eastwood, either before or at the early part of Charles 2nd's reign. Some have thought these Bundockes were connected with William Bundocke, master of the John Bonaventure, of London, 200 tons, who, in November 22, 1627, had letters of marke issued to him and others authorizing them to take pirates in that ship. (*Vide* calendar of State Papers, Dom. Ser. C. 1. p 303.) Again a William Bundocke commanded the Hopewell in 1635, on her voyage to New England, in which some of the John Elliot party sailed, and with him the Ruggles, founder of the fortune of our present Tory member, (*Founders of New England* by C. Drake, Boston, U.S., 1860.) In 1649 a William Bundocke, Esq., was one of the commissioners for the sale of prize goods seized at sea, (*Scobell acts and monuments of the interregnum.*)

There is an inscription upon an oblong square brick tomb, on the north side of the church yard,

"To the memory of Lydia Docwra, one of the last of the ancient family of that name in Hertfordshire, who after much affliction died Octr 1824, aged 50 years."

This Lydia Docwra was a stranger to the place, and not resident. There are several Quakers of this name in Essex, and there was a Docwra the immediate predecessor of the last Lord Prior of the Knight's Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem in London. This Docwra rebuilt St. John's gate, which had been destroyed by the rebels under Wat Tyler, and his arms are still to be seen on a shield on the gate. (See pedigree of the Docwra family in Clutterbuck's history of Hertfordshire.)

Upon a flat slate slab to the south east is this:—

"Within this vault lyeth the body of Mrs. Judith Darling, who, by her last will, made in the life-time of her husband, and with his consent and by power derived from him, gave divers summes of money to this and other

* Robert Noble died in the reign of Elizabeth, and had copyhold property in Thundersley, Rayleigh, Hadleigh, and had the manor of Colemans, in Prittlewell, which he sold. He left a son likewise named Robert. He was frequently on the homage for the honor of Rayleigh. (See the book of the Chamberlain.)

parishes, and bequeathed several yearly payments to private persons, and for putting to apprentice poore children; and of her will constituted her nephew Mr. Jonas Lamb,* of this parish, executor; Mr. Christopher Scott,† Mr. Lamberth, and Mr. William Leigh, of the Temple, her trustees and overseers. ob. 4 Oct. 1678." -

At the north-west corner of the church yard are two head stones with inscriptions to the Loten family.

"Sacred to the memory of John Loten Esqr many years Collector of H.M. Customs at this port, who departed this life Novr. 6th 1815, aged 63 years. Also Captain John Loten, who departed this life Novr 1st 1827, aged 38." The other is to "Mary, widow of the late Captain John Loten, who departed this life Novr 3rd, 1855, aged 66 years."

Of this family was John Gideon Loten, commonly called Governor Loten, who has a handsome monument in Westminster Abbey, consisting of a single figure, representing generosity, attended by a lion, who is sustaining a medallion with his portrait upon a pedestal, on which is inscribed in Latin his great character and the high offices he exercised over the Dutch settlements of Batavia in India, where he arrived in the year 1732; married Henrietta Beaumont, August 24th, 1733, who died August 10th, 1755. He returned to Europe in 1758, remarried in England July 4, 1765, to Lætitia Cotes, of Cotes in Staffordshire, and died at Utrecht, § May 25th, 1789, æt 80. The lower

* Jonas Lamb is mentioned in an old deed as having a house and orchard here in 1707. He likewise owned Chalkwell Hall. See registers.

† Probably the Rev. Christopher Scott, of Great Wakering, who was ejected for nonconformity in 1662.

§ The Rev. John Wesley in his journal records that he visited Utrecht upon two occasions. The first was in June, 1783, and he then met with the Lotens, in all probability the governor and his family. From what he tells us it would appear they were a pious family, and he met first-class people at their house. Besides their town residence they had a country house, three miles from the city, which he describes as a lovely place, surrounded with delightful gardens, laid out with wonderful variety. "Mr. Loten is of an easy genteel behaviour, speaks Latin correctly, and is no stranger to philosophy. Mrs. Loten is the picture of friendliness and hospitality, and young Mr. L. seems to be cast in the same mould." In 1786 Wesley again visited Utrecht, and dined at Mr. Loten's, "where was such variety of food as he never saw at any nobleman's table, either in England or Ireland. In the evening he expounded to a select company of very honourable ladies Matt. vii, 24. Miss Loten interpreting sentence for sentence." There was a John Loten a landscape painter of considerable merit, who came into England in 1670, and died here in 1681. He chiefly excelled in the representation of craggy rocks and cataracts. See Pilkington's Dictionary of Painters.

inscription is the fifteenth Psalm, except the last verse, and concludes— "Such was John Gideon Loten." There are many coats of arms on this monument and in the *Encyclopedia Heraldica*, it states that arms were granted (more correctly confirmed) to John Gideon Loten, of St. James's, Westminster, in 1765, originally of Flanders. He had to make a declaration of the towns in Flanders of which the family had been Burgomasters, and the churches in which they had monuments. The arms are those of Loten, quartered with Van Jachen.

"Quarterly 1st and 4th Or. a sprig with three gilliflowers in bud, vert, for Loten. 2nd and 3rd a swan naiant in water ppr for Van Jachen. Crest. On a wreath a gilliflower proper between two wings erect, the dexter Or. the sinister vert."

The name was originally Leten, anglicised to Loten. The governor had two brothers, one of whom was Robert Loten, (son of Robert) hoyman and yeoman, of South Bemfleet, and afterwards of Rayleigh. He at one time held the Waterside farm in Canvey, (formerly held by Thomas Hanson) and Hopes Green in Bemfleet. In 1774 he, together with John Greenaway, are authorized in a deed by Richard Vaughan, of Golden Grove, in the county of Carmarthen, lord of the manor of South Bemfleet, to take and keep for his use all wrecks of ships, vessels, boats, merchandizes, or anything he could claim, within the boundary and limits of the said manor. He married for his first wife, Sarah Greenaway, of South Bemfleet, in Canvey Island Chapel, in 1750-1. His second wife was Mary Marsh, widow, of Rayleigh, whom he married (*circa* 1785.) He made his will June 9th, 1790, and died 10th May, 1791. He appoints the south porch of the parish church of Rayleigh to be the place for payment of certain legacies mentioned in his will. One of these, a most important one, directs £50 to be paid within six calendar months to the then rector or vicar and the churchwardens of South

Bemfleet, upon trust to be by them and in their names put out at interest upon government or mortgage security, and the interest to be expended, yearly for ever on St. Thomas's day, in purchasing bread, and to be distributed amongst such poor persons belonging to the said parish of South Bamflete, otherwise Bemfleet, who shall not have taken collection or relief of the said parish within six months before such yearly distribution, as the said rector or vicar and churchwardens shall think the greatest objects of charity." This charity now consists of about £60, and passed about four years ago into the hands of the charity commissioners, who, at the request of the vicar and churchwardens, hold it in trust for the benefit of the National School of Bemfleet, and it now produces an annual income of £1 18s. 10d. Robert Loten died childless, but had two nieces, Martha married to Dr. Benjamin Moseley, Elizabeth, who died in a convent in France, and three nephews, of whom James, of Hull, was first lieutenant of the *Enterprize*, (the Honorable Thomas Eden, captain,) and was afterwards a captain in the impress service at Plymouth. The other brothers, *John* and Robert, were both lieutenants in the marines. Robert was killed. *John** was subsequently, as his tombstone tells us, for many years collector of customs at this port, and owned "Blacke House." He it was who planted the ivy now adorning the north side of the steeple. Captain *John* Loten was his son, and in 1810 was appointed commander of the *Safeguard*, a 32-gun brig in the Quarantine Service. Miss Mary Ann Loten, of Leigh, is the only one of that family and name now in England, and resides as owner on property once belonging to Chester Moore Hall.

There are four upright tomb stones on the south

* He always used the family arms and crest, which were engraven on his seals and plate, and a memorandum of his remains showing his correspondence with Governor Loten at a time when he contemplated entering the Dutch service.

side to the Going family. One to John Going who died in 1760, aged 37, and Elizabeth his widow in 1791. Another to John Going in 1806, aged 53, and Elizabeth his wife in 1825; a third to Mary, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Going, October 28th, 1813, aged 28 years, and the fourth to John Going who died in 1821. Some of this family have been resident in Leigh for many years. They were of Dutch extraction, and the surname was originally Van Gowen. The first authentic notice we have of them is of one widow Gowen who held lands west of the Church beyond "Blacke House," at the commencement of the 18th century. In 1727, Sarah Rogers, widow, sold a tenement to Philip Gowen, who was a free fisherman. Richard Gowing was a custom house officer here in 1798. The John Going who died in 1806 was owner of Leigh Marsh, and brother of Richard Going, of Little Wakering Wick. His grandfather, likewise named "Gowing," was a Lisbon merchant, and perished there in the great earthquake of 1755.

There is an upright stone at the north-east of the chancel,

"To the memory of Mary, wife of the Revd. Henry Ellis, rector of Sutton, who died April 24th 1827, aged 81 years."

Underneath are six lines of poetry. Mrs. Ellis was of Leigh, and after the death of her husband retired to this place. See Sutton. There is another Mary Ellis, daughter of Thomas Ellis, of this parish, (no relation to the above) buried beneath a brick altar tomb, opposite the church porch. The date is gone, the stone being defaced from the circumstance of its having been devoted to sharpening scythes and knives.

At the east end of the church are many monuments of the King family. One upright stone to—

"William King, dredger, of this parish, who departed this life Decr 21st, 1784, aged 57 years."

Another to his eldest son—

"William King, late collector of His Majesty's customs in this port, who died Jan'y 4th, 1786, aged 31 years."

Another, a flat body stone, to his nephew—

"William Henry King, collector of H.M. customs, who died July 8th, 1858, aged 70."

William King above named, styled "dredger," whereby was understood at that period an owner of oyster fisheries, was owner (or part) of the Chalkwell Hall foreshore and right of fishery between Leigh and Milton, and imported largely from France, Jersey, and Dorsetshire. William King the collector left a widow and two sons. His widow (formerly Mary Dale, of Swaines in Hawkwell) married John Knapping, of Suttons in South Shoebury. His eldest son, William Henry King, who resided many years at Suttons, died unmarried, and his youngest son, George King, first entered the service of the East India Company as a Mid., then went into the Royal Navy, from which he also retired and got a commission soon after as a lieutenant of Royal Marines, and accompanied Lord Cochrane (*circa* 1812) on a diplomatic mission to the Dey of Algiers, and was present at a reception at Court, when rich presents from our government were presented to his highness. He afterwards travelled a good deal, visiting the West Indies, and resided nine years in South Africa. He finally returned to England, and having passed a life characterized by great eccentricity and adventure, died unmarried and was buried at Greenwich. William Henry King, likewise collector, who died in 1858, was for many years the indefatigable chairman, treasurer, and secretary of the waterworks in this town, to the interests of which he for many years devoted his unremitting attention. Among these tombs is one

"To the memory of Martha, wife of William Norris, of Tilty Grange," (formerly mentioned). She was daughter of George and Ann Montague, of this place, and died August 1st, 1761, aged 52. Judith, wife of William King,

who died in 1784, was her daughter, for whom there is an inscription.

There is a long square brick tomb with flat stone at top, situate about six feet from the tower on the north west side, with this inscription:—

"This Pile is erected to the memory of the Revd. Mr. Francis Fordyce, A.M., a native of North Britain, and 3 years vicar of Eastwood. He died in the 60th year of his age on the 27th Sept. 1766.

Hæc fragile humanum genus! Hæc terrestria Vana!

Hæc quem spectatum! continet urna Virum."

Fordyce was probably son or near relative of the rector of Leigh, of the same name. The situation of the tomb of the latter is uncertain, but that he was buried here is shown by the registers, and probably near the vicar of Eastwood, as there is a tomb in close proximity, the slab of which is said to have been broken by a coping stone falling down, or being thrown from the battlements of the tower. Unfortunately that part of the slab bearing the inscription is detached and lost.

There are several head-stones to the Lee family:—

"To Robert Lee, many years chief officer of the King's boat at this Port, who died 12th Novr 1794, aged 37. To Sarah, wife of Thomas Lee, Collector of H. M. Customs, who died in 1765, aged 30."

This Thomas Lee* held Leigh Beck in Canvey Island, (in the parish of Prittlewell) and was in the oyster trade.

Upon the south side of the church is a cross upon a rock, or calvary,

"*In memoriam.* William Henry Brand, Captain Royal Navy, born 9th Oct., 1790, died 22nd April, 1867. Christina Cecilia his wife died 17th Decr 1855."

O'Byrne's Naval Biography states that he was "son of the late Alexander Brand, Esq., R.A., and brother of Major Brand of the 16th Regt., of Dr. Charles and the late Lieuts. Geo. Rowley and Thos. Dickson Brand, R.N. Entered the Navy 18 May, 1805, as

* For a further account of whom, see Prittlewell.

Midshipman on board the *Revenge* 74, Captain Robert Moorsom and Sir John Gore, under the former of whom he was present at the battle of Trafalgar, 21st October, 1805, and under the latter, at the capture of four French frigates by a squadron under Sir Samuel Hood, off Rochefort, 25th September, 1806." He was for many years after this in active service, at one period engaged with the batteries and gun boats in the gut of Gibraltar, when he was taken prisoner by a Spanish flotilla. During a subsequent attachment of two and a half years with the *Apollo* 38, Captain Bridges, he co-operated with the patriots on the coast of Catalonia. Upon subsequent occasions we find him contributing to different successes by boarding, upon one occasion by the capture of a French gun vessel, in which was taken prisoner the Colonel and Chief of Engineers at Corfu. After various exploits, amongst which he commanded the boats and captured an armed settee and trabacolo near St. Nicolo, and an affair on land, in which he marched three miles at the head of a body of seamen and marines, surprised the guard at Sabionetta, and brought away captive the then Préfet and his Secretary. Mr. Brand, who received his first commission 30 December, 1813, afterwards served for some time in the *Badger* 10, Captain Hon. Charles Orlando Bridgeman, and witnessed the reduction of Guadaloupe in 1815. He was afterwards employed on the coast blockade, and from the 25th September, 1826, until advanced to the rank of commander, 9th November, 1846, was next occupied in the Coast Guard, in which he held the Inspecting Commandership of the Shetland district, from September, 1828, until its abolition in February, 1844. He afterwards attained the rank of Post Captain. He married 17th May, 1832, Christina Cecilia, second daughter of James Greig, Esq., Procurator Fiscal, of Shetland, by whom he had issue two sons and three daughters, one of the latter of

whom, Francisca Jane, is wife of the Rev. Thomas Julius Henderson, late vicar of South Bemfleet.

Amongst the head-stones are the following:—

“To Thomas Simpson, Esq., Comptroller of H.M. Customs at this port, who died 20 Jan. 1814, aged 59.”

He was son of Thomas Simpson, Esq., of Kirby Ravenworth in Yorkshire, and brother of the Rev. Francis Simpson, of University College, Oxford. “To Nathaniel Lamburt, who died in 1768, aged 48.” He kept the George Inn, in Leigh, the license of which was transferred to the Ship. The former became a private house, and was pulled down at the formation of the railway. It was situated at the crossing. This Lamburt was an ancestor of the Brazier family, of whom there are several records in this cemetery. “To Mr. James Chant of H.M. Customs, who died 6 May, 1837, aged 64. Robert Mosebury, in 1762, aged 65. Sarah, wife of David Harridge, of Leigh, December 7th, 1798. John Wade, son of Thomas and Mary Wade, of Leigh Hall, who died October 25th, 1860, aged 60. Jeremiah Knight, in 1748, aged 25, and another of the same name, in 1760, aged 67. John Bayly Thompson, 30 years clerk of this parish, October 20, 1869, aged 73. Allen Taylor, of Battles Bridge, who died in 1825, aged 76. Nathaniel Bradley, many years a surgeon of this place (a native of Burnham, and in no way related to Lemuel Bradley formerly mentioned) who died July 14th, 1850, aged 65 years. Thomas Bradley, of this parish, July 18th 1864, aged 53 years.” He was son of the above Nathaniel, and was an apothecary in this town. “To Mrs. Elizabeth Gawler, wife of John Gawler, of Thames Street, London, in 1781, aged 35, also Mr. John Gawler, 20th May, 1805, aged 67.” There are monuments likewise to the Osbornes, dredgers, of this place, the Wisemans, and many others.

The Church-yard (the fence of which belongs to the parish) contains 3 roods and 6 perches, besides

which there is a plot of ground, (calculated to be able to contain 200 corpses) not yet consecrated, but which has been enclosed and added to it on the eastern side, the land being the gift of Lady Olivia Sparrow. Upon it formerly stood the stocks, the jossing block,* and the manor pound. A spring likewise flows from it which supplies water to a reservoir in a field below, and from thence to the Schools and Eden Lodge. This Eden Lodge was formerly the distillery of Lazarus and Co., whose premises were supplied from this wear. They made large quantities of gin, and the water from this source was considered most excellent, but the late report of its analyzation has dispersed the illusion as to its present purity. This spring has never failed in the driest season for 50 years past.

The tithes belonging to this rectory were commuted in 1846, at £501 15s. per annum. It is a well known fact that these tithes, taking the quality of the soil into consideration, are much above the average of the Hundred, although hardly adequate for the wants of the rector, which includes the stipend of a curate, and the calls made upon him amongst a population, for the most part composed of people frequently necessitous, and the keeping up of a house whose surroundings and grounds are unsuited to the income. The terrier of 1610 relates that at that time existed a parsonage house, a barn, a stable, and two gardens, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres of glebe. The old Rectory House, built by the Rev. J. D. Hodge, which was demolished when the present residence was erected, was of white brick, weather boarded at back and ends, the roof, a single one tiled, with gable ends. It stood near the site of the present edifice, at the back of the two poplar trees, and faced "Chess" or Chase lane. The present house was built by the Rev. R. Eden, in 1838, and is of Elizabethan character and design. At the commutation the glebe consisted

* Jor, eques, enhest; jós, jó.

of 5 acres, 2 roods, and 22 perches, but the Railway Company at its formation requiring a portion they paid £100 for the same, which sum was expended in purchasing a piece of ground, (the private property of Dr. Eden) which was incorporated with that belonging to the living. The grounds were laid out by Dr. Eden with considerable taste, though not with much regard to utility, and they were enclosed and rendered private by the absorption of Chess lane on the south, together with the addition of a portion of land called Sweetings, on the north, purchased from Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow. The whole now consists of about 6 acres or more. This Chess lane was the only and direct road to the Rectory, Tile Kiln Field, and Lord and Chapman's farm, and had leading into it four foot-paths from the town of Leigh. The advantages of constructing this ring fence appears to have been entirely on one side, for the inhabitants were deprived for ever of the promenade, use, and enjoyment of a beautiful avenue shaded by lofty trees, leading to the downs beyond, which commanded a panorama of the town below, and a magnificent view of the adjacent Islands. In exchange for this Chess lane they received as an equivalent a right of way at the back of the Rectory, partly bounded on the south by an ugly wall, shutting out the entire view, and altogether one of the most uninviting strolls that can be imagined. The inhabitants submitted to this appropriation with deep regret, and it occasioned strong remonstrances. The paths stopped up were, one from the workhouse lane leading up by the "Crooked Billet," two from the Peterboat lane, and the old Church hill lane leading from the "Ship" which was a public road. It was a great grief to lose the Church hill lane, as it was dear to the inhabitants on many accounts. The path varied in width from 10 to 13 feet, (with thick quick hedges on either side,) always kept clean by having cockle shells from Canvey Island strown on it, with

benches for the old people to rest themselves on. It was the usual path for those that were married, and the way along which those that were buried, were carried to their last home. It admitted this, as it was a curve and considerably less abrupt than the present way. Upon its suppression posts were driven down, (since removed) across the path by Black house, so that funerals of all adults* from the lower part of the village, had to be taken up the horse hill to the east gate of the churchyard, thus superseding the ancient catholic usage.

This rectory was formerly appendant to the manor of which John de Arpeton was Lord, who presented to the same anno 1326, 1329, and 1331. After that period there are no institutions recorded in the London registry till 1407, when Thomas Arundel, Archbishop of Canterbury, the lady Joane de Bohun, Countess of Hereford, and others (who were concerned with the said Joane in her founding the Chantry in the chapel of Foulness) presented. Joane presented again in 1432. After the death of her second husband Lord de Bergavenny, the said Joane married James Earl of Ormond, by whom she had three sons, viz. James Boteler, (afterwards Earl of Wiltshire) John, and Thomas, who was afterwards Earl of Ormond. The said James by the title of Earl of Wiltshire, to which he was advanced by Henry 6th, presented in 1451, but being beheaded the 1st of May, 1461, on account of his attachment to the House of Lancaster, his property was confiscated. The patronage of this living having reverted to the Crown, Edward 4th, conferred it upon his son-in-law, Thomas Grey Marquis of Dorset, but Thomas Boteler, Earl of Ormond being restored to his estates upon the accession of Henry VII, became entitled to the patronage, and it descended as the

* The corpses of infants and children are carried up the present path called the little hill, which formerly passed through "Normans field" (now fenced off,) but it is too steep for a greater weight. Since the removal of the posts, funerals can pass by Blacke house.

manor to Lord Riche and his heirs. Upon the partition of the Warwick estates, it came to Daniel, Earl of Nottingham, who by Act of Parliament, 9th William 3rd, obtained license to exchange the advowson of this living for the Vicarage of Oakham in Rutlandshire, within which parish his seat of Burley on the Hill stood, and which Vicarage belonged to the see of London, but in 1846, in consequence of a fresh arrangement of Sees, this came under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Rochester.

The first incumbent of this Church of whom we have any important notice is George Gard, (formerly vicar of Raynham) presented by Thomas, Earl of Ormond, in 1488. He was likewise vicar of South Bemfleet, and he resigned both livings in 1506. We find him admitted to the vicarage of Rislip in Middlesex, in 1482, but he occasionally adopted the name of Percy, and was sometimes called George Gard, alias Percy, and under these names held the Rectory of Chelsea in 1492. Clement Eryngton (likewise vicar of St. Olave, Jewry, London) was presented to the living of Leigh by Viscount Rochford, and resigned in 1531. About this period the curate, Richard Kitchen, abjured. (Fox iv. 585. v. 28.) William Aston, (likewise vicar of Wickford) who was presented to this benefice by Richard Lord Rich, held it when Edward VI Commissioners made their inventories of church goods. We find from them Mr. Cyscely,* had been a purchaser of a suit of vestments. The churchwardens had expended money upon the highways, and likewise "vli for repayreing of ye churche wharf." This wharf cannot now be identified. William Negus,† B.A., of Trinity

* At this time Mr. Clement Sisley, or as Newcourt calls him "Gysteley," was residing at Wickford, of which living he was patron; he was the builder of Eastbury House, Barking. See Southchurch.

† There was a Jonathan Negus, vicar of Prittlewell, who died in 1632, and a John Negus, "a hopeful young man," minister at Barling, in 1650. Whether they were related to William Negus we do not know. See Prittlewell.

College, Cambridge, was instituted to this living in 1585, upon the death of the former incumbent, John Bowden.* He was inclined to puritan ideas, and suspended by Bishop Aylmer at his visitation at Witham, owing to his replies respecting the vexed question of wearing the surplice.† Negus gives the following account of this transaction in a letter to certain of his brethren who had similarly suffered and had met for conference. "The cause of my suspension was only this; being convented before the Bishop at Witham, and then being demanded whether I had worne the surplice since my coming to the Lee, my answer was, that as I had not it, so I had never refused it, for there was none offered, nor any in the parish to be worne. He further asked me if I should weare it, if it were provided. My answer was, I desired his favor that I might proceed in my ministry until such time as there was a surplice made, and that he knew I refused to weare it. He, not satisfied with this answer, urged me to say that I would weare it, and I would not; but I, standing to my former answer, and desiring that it might be accepted, he concluded thus: 'Seeing you will not promise to weare it, we will suspend you till you will.' Whatsoever the godly brethren shall agree upon concerning a supplication for the liberty of us, the ministers suspended, to be put up at this present parliament, I, willingly as if I were present, consent thereto. By me, William Negus." On his hesitating to comply with the demands of the Bishop, twenty-eight of his principal parishioners petitioned him in an earnest appeal entitled "The request of the inhabitants of the Town of Leigh, to our pastor, Mr. Negus.

* Bowden was ordained deacon by Bishop Grindal, in 1562. See Rochford.

† The surplice was introduced about the 11th century, when the power and influence of the Roman Church was at its height, and the black preaching gown was first worn by the Dominican friars. They are both of Popish invention.

Wee as fully persuaded in our hearts that God hath sent you, and set you over us to be our Shepheard to feed us with spirituall food of our soules, it is our great grief that your mouth is shut up and that we are deprived of our spirituall comfort, for we knowe that in time, if it continue, it will be our ruin. We do also understand that your liberty may be redeemed also, by wearing the surplice at some time and that you shall not be urged further. It is a thing which we wish with all our hearts, if it please God and our Prince, were removed, but yet we take it not to be a matter of such weight as that to the hazard of our soules and losse of our spirituall comforte the not wearing it, should deprive us of your ministry, for that we look to have such an one thrust upon us that we shall be constrained to beare greater things than the surplice, and want our godly instruction. We wish rather to beare with that, and so have your preaching, than to beare not only that but much more and to be without teaching. We do therefore intreate you as you render our soules and as you regard that account that you must make unto God for them, not to forsake us for such a trifle. If it fall out hereafter that you be urged to such matters as a good conscience cannot yield unto, then we take it that you are discharged before God.

Your hungrie sheep,

Rob. Salmon, Wm. Smith, Wm. Simmes,* Wm. Rawlin, Jno. Tyner, Jno. Goodlad, Rob. Bonner, Wm. Hare, Rd. Chester, Jno. Skinner, Wm. Bonner, Jno. Harris, Jno. Clarke, Henry Rawlin, Rad. Person, Ab. Rawlin, Thos. Seaboro', Will. Chapman, Tho. Peke, Wm. Goodlad, Tho. Wilkin, Mich. Coult, Tho. Breadcake, Benj. Cocke, Lan. More, Widow Kelsham, Widow Barret, Widow Moore."

His suspension was recalled, but he was again in trouble and at length deprived by Bishop Bancroft, before August, 1609. He was succeeded by John Sym or Simmes, who probably did not occupy a bed of roses, for there are various records of troubles in the parish during this period. Under date October 17th, 1633, it appears one Fred Wagoner, of "Lee," a physician, a foreigner, probably a Dutchman, had appeared before the court of the High commission† for his "prophane" speech against the blessed sacrament, and fined in £300, but this was afterwards mitigated to

* Among the Burghley Papers, MS Lanad. 113, 76 D., in a list of persons chargeable with loans temp. Eliz., the name of William Symes, of Lee, occurs chargeable "*in bonis*," £16.

† That despotic tribunal the Star Chamber, or "Chambre des Estoilles," can be traced to the reign of Edward III. It was abolished by Parliament in 1641.

£100. On 24th March, 1635, John Tucker of "Le," husbandman, appeared in custody before the Privy Council, but for what does not appear, (Col. State Papers Dom. Ser. c.i. cccxvii. 5.) and from the same authority cccxxvii. 82, we find that Aylett, Laud's Commissary, informs against John Sym, a Scotchman, minister of Lee, for keeping a solemn fast on Wednesday in Ascension week, the people remaining all day in church, fasting, praying, and Mr. Sym preaching, and on the 29th June, 1636, Aylett, Laud's official, writes to Sir Jno. Lambe, enclosing a defence of Mr. Sym, who explains his having had such a service, and pleads ancient canons about Rogation. It was the day of the ordinary lecture. Besides the appointed service, he preached two services with prayer before and after, for the cessation of the pestilence and for rain. There were many such preachings in Rochford Hundred. (R.O. Dom. Ser. c.i. ccclxii. 106.) Sym was a theological writer of some repute, and was author of a work entitled "Life's preservation against Self-killing, or an useful Treatise concerning Life and Self-Murther, shewing the kindes and meanes of them both, the excellency and preservation of the former, the eville and prevention of the latter," published in London, (shortly before his death) at the Brazen Serpent, St. Paul's Churchyard, in 1637, 4to. This book, which is extremely rare, has a preface by William Gouge, of Blackfriars, a well known divine, and a copy of the work is preserved in Dr. Plume's library, at Maldon. It contains 326 pages, and is dedicated to the Right Honourable and most noble Lord Robert, Earle of Warwick, Lord Rich, Baron of Leeze, &c., my very good Lord and most noble Patron. The book is written in a quaint old terse style, replete with wit and sound argument, and completely exhaustive of the subject about which it treats, and evidences a writer of great research, learning, and piety. Addressing his parishioners, he alludes to his

predecessor Negus, as "a most Reverend, Judicious, and godly Divine, a Father both to them and him." We regret to state that the tomb wherein the body of this excellent man was placed, was destroyed in 1848, in pursuance of a notice to that effect, published by the churchwardens, calling upon his descendants to repair it, or if they did not, it would be "disposed of." This tomb had been built by the Rev. Dr. Thompson, 60 years after Mr. Sym's death, who used Mr. Sym's slab for a covering, and placed his body therein, which fact is recorded in the parish register in 1697, where it is attested by Richard Rogers, and Francis Rawllins, and was inscribed upon the tomb itself. The churchwardens having no reply to their proclamation, the vault was filled up, and the stone slab instead of being placed *in situ* with its perfect and legible inscriptions, which might have lasted several centuries longer, was broken in three pieces, and cast into a remote corner of the church-yard. Upon it was—

*D. Jo: Sym Viri eruditiss: et pientissimi qui Ecclesiam hanc fideliter rexit
an. 28, Et tandem Do'ino placide obdormivit, 24 Martii 1697, ætatis 75.*

Memorie,

Si cuiquam innocuam sit laudi degere vitam;

Bonis placere si malis

Displicuisse juvat; pastoris gloria fida,

Oracla si cœlestia

Dispensasse manu tremuli suspiria laudant

Quam pectori si laudibus

Sit dignus mentem exhilarat facundia lingue

Polita cujus defessam;—

Vita tibi intemerata parit decus (inclyte Syme)

Boni quem honorant nec mali

Obtrectasse aveant. Te vivum Essexia quondam

Mirata mortuum luget.

Corporis exuviis positus dum sidera scandis

Manes superstes nomine.

*Hæc, piis manibus, amici et fratris dilectissimi qui illum dum viverat sincere
coluit et mortuum merito luget,*

Parentavit

Tho: Young.

To ye everliving memory of Mr. John Sym, Pastor of this Church 28 years, who deceased ye 24 March in ye yeare of his Lord 1637. His age 75.

His learning, prudence, and faithfulness,

His zeal for God against all wickedness,

His holy life*.....

Makes soule and name to triumph over death.

Underneath this stone, in a vault made at his own charge for himself and family, lieth the body of Mr. William Thompson, late rector of Leigh, who died 26 May, buried the 31st, 1699, aged yeares."

He was succeeded by the puritan William Welles, A.M., who resigned this living in 1639, and accepted that of Hadleigh, to which Robert, Earl of Warwick promoted him. His successor at Leigh was John Argor, A.M. He was born at Laver Breton, near Colchester, and educated at the University of Cambridge. His name is printed in the Classis Augar. He was one of the subscribers to the Essex Testimony in 1648, and also to the Essex Watchword in 1649. In 1650 he is returned as well approved for learning and doctrine, and an able preaching minister. In 1657 he resigned Leigh and removed to the Vicarage of Braintree, upon the death of Samuel Collins, September 1st, 1657, (Lambeth MSS. 943. act 2.) to which he was appointed by his patron the Earl. He was much beloved at Leigh and in October 1657, he received a gift of £100 from his parishioners, as a token of esteem. His name frequently appears in the parish books at Braintree. After being laid aside for not conforming in 1662, he continued in Braintree, and kept the Grammar School there till the '5 mile act' took place, and then he was forced to leave the town. He used to say, "he left his living upon no other terms than he would, if called to it, have laid down his life." Palmer says "he was exceedingly beloved, and the loss of him much lamented. He was a very serious and lively christian, and in his advanced years often had raptures of joy. He kept a diary of God's dealings

* The remainder of this line had been carefully chiseled out.

with him, and among other things in stirring up friends to assist him, for which he expresses himself truly grateful, as he had a large family of children to provide for. He never could be prevailed with to print anything. He was the first of the Essex ejected ministers to avail himself of the Declaration of Indulgence in 1672, being licensed as a Presbyterian teacher in Hezekiah Haynes' house at Copford, and Zachariah Seaman's in Birch Magna. Towards the close of his life he had a people at Wivenhoe. He continued to reside and also to preach at Copford until his death in December, 1679, at the age of 77. His remains were buried in Copford Church. The next Rector of Leigh of whom we have any account was John Clark, formerly Rector of Lees-parva, in Chelmsford hundred, and at one time Rector of Tilbury *juxta* Clare. Upon his death John Fflower succeeded him in 1661, William Secker in 1667, and William Thompson, B.A., (already alluded to) in 1681. He died in 1699. The advowson having now passed to the Bishop of London, he presented Alexander Leask, D.D., who died October 25th, 1701. Francis Fordyce, a Scotchman, was presented upon the 30th of the same month ; he died of cholera and was buried at Leigh, March 30th, 1726.* Roger Price became Rector in 1726, William Parker, D.D., in 1762, Henry Willes, by cession of Parker, in 1763, Matthew Hodge in 1777. John Davey Hodge, B.A., of Balliol College, Oxford, was inducted into this living March 8th, 1793, (see registers) upon the resignation of his father, Matthew Hodge. There is a white marble tablet on the south wall of the chancel—

"To the memory of Sarah, the faithful wife and friend of John Davey Hodge, (rector of this parish) who died November 6th, 1797, aged 30 years."

The registers inform us she was interred on the right side of the altar, by William Polhill, rector of Hadleigh. J. D. Hodge† died in 1808, and was

* See Inscriptions.

† There was a Hodge curate of North Shoebury, about this time. We are not aware they were related. See North Shoebury.

succeeded by Edward Newton Walter, B.A., 13th September, of the same year. His name has been already mentioned in connection with Lady Olivia's exertions. His failings as a parish priest had probably something to do with the times in which he lived, and towards the close of his life he was incapable of the fatigue of toiling up the steep paths with which Leigh abounds, having a difficulty of walking except upon level ground. Although one of the old school, he was to a certain extent in advance of the times, establishing two services on Sunday, and was a magnificent reader, a good preacher, and a polished gentleman. He was highly connected, and was of very ancient lineage. A series of extraordinary misfortunes fell upon him, which rendered his purse unequal to the administration of a poor parish, and his capacity failing, it eluded his grasp. He was of St. John's College, Cambridge, and took the degree of B.A. in the year 1787. His first curacy was that of Crowcombe, Somersetshire. He was the only son of the Rev. Alleyne Walter, D.D., of Bath, Somersetshire, and nephew of the Rev. Neville Walter, rector of Berghapton, Norfolk, who married Rachael, daughter and coheir of George Hamilton, third son of the Earl of Abercorn. His grandfather, John Abel Walter, of Busbridge, in the county of Surrey, married Jane, daughter of George Neville, Lord Abergavenny, and was a descendant of John Walter, of Piercefield, Monmouthshire. The family for many generations were amongst the most influential residents of the Island of Barbadoes, and connected by marriage with the families of Alleyne and Dottin, who frequently held the appointment of governor and commander in chief of the Island. The Rev. E. N. Walter, of Leigh, married Mary,* daughter of — Axe, of Cross,

* Mrs. Walter met with a sad accident at Leigh. Whilst incautiously throwing gunpowder from a flask into the fire, the contents exploded and shattered her right hand. She used one of cork after this, which was so ingeniously contrived, that she was enabled to use not only a fork and spoon, but was accustomed to do needlework likewise.

Somersetshire, by whom he had issue four sons and two daughters, the youngest of whom, Harriet, is still living at Bath. The eldest son, Abel Alleyne Walter, has been dead some years. His second son, George, was a lieutenant in the Royal Marines, who, having seen considerable foreign service, retired on half-pay. He was well known as one of the original projectors of the Greenwich Railway, (at that time the first railway in the south of England,) and other important lines. He was also the founder of the General Annuity Endowment Society, and many schemes of public utility. He died at Prittlewell the 24th August, on the feast of St. Bartholomew, 1854, aged 64, and was buried near the east end of the church at Leigh. The monument consists of a massive stone cross, four feet high, with a foot stone, gothic. His son, D. Alleyne Walter, to whom we are indebted for these details, resides at Stonegate, York. Another son of our rector, Henry, was a Major in the East India Company's service, who died in Madras. Hugh, the youngest, died young. Of the daughters, Catherine married a Dr. Dermer, who for some time practised at Southend; he afterwards went to Van Dieman's land, and returned and died in London in 1870. Our rector died in 1837, and is buried in the church-yard of St. Mary's, Lewisham, Kent. The next incumbent was Rev. Robert Eden, who was instituted 13th March, and is the third son of Sir F. Morton Eden, Bart., and was born September 2nd, 1804. His school was Westminster; his college, Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated as B.A., 1827, M.A., 1839, D.D., 1851. He was ordained deacon in January, 1828, and priest in the December of the same year, becoming curate of Weston-sub-Edge, 1828; of Messing,* in Essex, 1829; and

* Dr. Eden whilst at Leigh received a most bountiful windfall in the shape of a legacy from his departed friend, John Griggs, a wealthy farmer, of Messing, amounting in the gross to nearly one hundred thousand pounds, in plate, money, furniture, and estates. Although the Dr. was left sole legatee, he generously made over certain sums to distant relatives of his benefactor.

of Peldon, in the same county, 1832. His merits became known to the late Bishop Blomfield, who appointed him rector of Leigh, observing when he did so that Mr. Eden would be both light and heat to his new neighbourhood, and so it proved. He restored the church, built a rectory and schools,* instituted frequent services and communions, was a zealous and popular preacher, and a diligent visitor in the parish. Moreover as a rural dean he was most efficient, holding Decanal Chapters four times a year, during the Ember seasons, and as chairman of the Rochford Board of Guardians his influence was most beneficial, to which he added the most pleasing manners and address. During the cholera in 1849, Mr. Eden was indefatigable, and rubbed the collapsed sufferers with his own hands. Although their paths were different, he was a follower and coadjutor of Lady Olivia Sparrow in rescuing a place once notorious for the drunkenness and coarseness of its fishermen from the degradation to which it had fallen. Dr. Eden was elected and consecrated Bishop of Moray and Ross in 1851 on the 9th February in St. Paul's Church, York Place, Edinburgh, (he had previously been appointed to the incumbency of Holy Trinity, Elgin,) and appointed Primus in 1862. He commenced his cathedral at Inverness in 1866, and saw it formally opened in 1869. It is dedicated to St. Andrew. This is the second that has been erected in Scotland since the epoch of the Reformation. The Primus married early in life,

* These National Schools were erected, at Mr. Eden's sole cost, in consequence of differences with Lady Olivia Sparrow. There was a newspaper war between them for some time, and as Mr. Eden belonged to the high church party, it was any how impossible that such opposite extremes could have agreed long. The Schools are in the mixed Elizabethan style, and were erected at the cost of £1500. They are of Kentish ragstone, and are 90 feet long by 82 broad, including residences for the curate and master. After Mr. Eden's retirement, he sold the Schools to the Privy Council, who gave £500 towards the purchase, and handed them over to trustees for the benefit of the parish. The average attendance in 1871 was boys, 59, girls, 47, infants, 60, and night school, 11, making a total of 177. It is to be regretted that the foundation upon which the Schools are built is unsound, causing large fissures in the walls.

Emma, third daughter of Sir James Allan Parke, one of the Judges in the Court of Common Pleas. They have five sons living and five daughters. The motto of the family is *Si sit prudentia*. Upon the resignation of Eden, the presentation to the living having been transferred to the Diocese of Rochester,* it was bestowed upon Christopher R. Harrison, B.C.L., October 20th, 1852, who resigned in 1855, and became Rector of Peldon, and from thence exchanged to North Curry, near Taunton, Somersetshire. His successor at Leigh was Frederick William Murray, M.A., May 30th, 1855, youngest son of the late Bishop of Rochester, who resigned in 1859, and has now the Rectory of Stone, in Kent. The present rector, the Rev. Walker King, M.A., of Oriel College, Oxford, was instituted June 7th of the same year. He is son of the Archdeacon of Rochester, and grandson of Walker King, Bishop of that See.

The following are some of the curates of Leigh. The Rev. Charles Morgan in 1733. Charles Hyett in 1749. Holmes, who died *circa* 1766. Henry Ellis, curate in sole charge for about 30 years ending 1793, on a stipend of £40. Matthew Hodge, (son of the rector Matthew, and brother of John Davey Hodge,) curate in 1804. They were a Somersetshire family. J. F. Hunter in 1815. He was notoriously addicted to drinking, and was seen carrying a looking glass from Southend to Leigh on his back. James Smith, from 1816 to 1821, during the absence of Walter. He was likewise curate of Prittlewell, and afterwards of Woolwich. He was a most kind and benevolent man, and greatly respected. He died at Clapton Square, Hackney, (*circa* 1830.) J. G. Purcell, of Trinity College, Dublin, by birth an Irishman. He was very eloquent, and was curate in charge some time prior to

* The re-adjustment of the Dioceses of London and Rochester took place in 1846. The Records shewing the institutions of the Clergy belonging to the See of London, are to be found at Doctor's Commons, but those appertaining to the See of Rochester are deposited at Brainree.

the death of Walter, and till the appointment of R. Eden to the living in 1837. Upon leaving Leigh he was presented by Viscount Clifden to the vicarage of Worminghall, Bucks, where he died. W. Armstrong in 1837. His parents were of South Bemfleet, and his father was afterwards a clergyman at Buenos Ayres. John Henry Scott in 1840, afterwards chaplain at Gottenbury, where he died. Edmund Worledge in 1842, now chaplain at Whitelands. Herbert S. Hawkins, in 1845. He is son of Mr Hawkins, keeper of the antiquities in the British Museum, and married Mr. Eden's eldest daughter, Caroline. H. S. Jenner in 1852. He was a son of Sir Herbert Jenner Fust, Judge of the Arches Court. He was afterwards consecrated Bishop of Dunedin in New Zealand, but being rejected by the puritanical section of the colonists, resigned. T. J. Henderson in 1855, since vicar of South Bemfleet. W. Willan in 1857. The Rev. William E. Heygate* succeeded him and continued curate for 12 years. Previously he had the curacy of Great Wakering, and afterwards that of Hadleigh. He was a scholar of Merchant Taylor's School, where he gained an exhibition, and proceeded from thence to St. John's College, Oxford, where he graduated third class B.A. in 1839, and M.A. in 1842, and was ordained deacon and priest in 1840. He is author of numerous theological, devotional, and other works, among them "Catholic Antidotes," a learned work, and perhaps the chief amongst his writings, treating on the inspiration of Holy Scriptures, and directed against the Neology of the day. "The Manual," a book of devotion, chiefly intended for the poor. "*Probatio Clerica*," or a Help to Self Examination to Candidates for Holy Orders, "*Pierre Ponssin*," or Thought of Christ's Presence, "Ember Hours," "The Evening of Life" and "The Wedding Gift." Mr.

* He is second son of James Heygate, of Porter's Grange, Prittlewell. For an account of this family see that parish.

Heygate is also the author of many historical and other tales, among which may be mentioned "Sir Henry Appleton," or Essex during the Great Rebellion, "Alice of Fobbing," or a tale of the time of Jack Straw, "The Scholar and the Trooper," or Oxford during the Great Rebellion. Also "A Memoir of the Rev. John Aubone Cook, vicar of South Bemfleet." Recently Mr. Heygate has published a volume entitled "The Fugitive, and other poems." In 1869 Mr. Heygate was presented to the rectory of Brighstone, in the Isle of Wight, upon which occasion the inhabitants of Leigh, in token of regard for his meritorious services amongst them for so long a period, presented him with a massive and elegantly engraved silver coffee pot of oriental pattern, with salver to match. Upon his departure to the scene of his future labours he presented a manuscript (written by him in 1869) to the chapter of the deaneries of Rochford and Canewdon, containing, "1. Notes on the Ecclesiastical condition of Rochford Hundred during part of the last century and part of this. 2. The Communion of the Sick. 3. Evening Services on ordinary days. 4. *Instrumenta Ecclesiastica*. 5. Study." In the conclusion Mr. Heygate advocates "great charity towards dissenters and to careless christians, whose errors and faults lie sadly at the door of the church. He suggests that the spirit of irreverence which is very destructive to the holy fear and love of God would be checked in some measure if a clergyman prepared the altar for celebration with his own hands, and cleansed the vessels. Under Study, in his advice to "Young Clergymen coming into the district," the books he recommends are "R. T. Wilberforce on the Incarnation. Liddon's Bampton Lectures. Andrewe's Services. Bishop Hall's Contemplations. Neale's Liturgies. Pusey on the book of Daniel. St. Augustine's Confessions. Eucheiridian. Forbes on the Nicene Creed. Fleury. Beveredge on the Canons.

The Apostolic Fathers. Moberly's forty days. Pusey's Minor Prophets, and Graves on the Pentateuch. Mr. Heygate married in 1846 Maria Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. E. H. Penny, rector of Great Stambridge, by whom he has a numerous family. He was succeeded at Leigh, as curate, by the Rev. H. Sewell, of Clare College, Cambridge.

The registers of baptisms commence in 1684; the burials in 1685; and marriages in 1691; and from them we extract the following. "Peter, son of Rich and Elizabeth Nott,* of Ffoulness, was baptized May 25th, being Ascension day, 1693. This child was the son of a Quaker, and was baptized at an Anabaptist's house. In 1693 Charles Tyrrell, of Shopland, and Martha Lamb married Sepr. 28th. Charles, the son of Charles "Tirrell,"† Esq., and Martha his wife, was baptized Decr. 20th, 1694. Jonas, the son of Mr. Charles Tyrrell and Martha his wife, was bap. Decr. 21st, 1695. In 1712 Samuel, son of Rev. Thomas Sampson,‡ rector of Hadleigh, and Sophia his wife, was baptized. "June 7th, 1715-16, the body of Mrs. Mary Terrick, widow, lately of the parish of St. Mildred, Broad Street, London, buried in her husband's grave in the chancel." There are many entries of the Haddock family in these registers.

The Wesleyan Society holds a good position in this town, having been established by the Rev. John Wesley himself, who visited the flock upon several occasions. In plain and simple language this good man records in his journal his various itinerant visits to this place. The first appears to have been on November 12th, 1748, when he states, "I set out for Leigh, in Essex. It had rained hard in the former part of the night, which was succeeded by a sharp frost, so that most of the road was like glass; and

* See Foulness and South Shoebury.

† See Prittlewell and Shopland.

‡ See Hadleigh.

the north-east wind sat just in our face. However, we reached Leigh by four in the afternoon. Here was once a deep open harbour; but the sands have long since blocked it up, and reduced a once flourishing town to a small ruinous village. I preached to most of the inhabitants of the place in the evening, to many in the morning, and then rode back to London." His next visit was on Monday, December 18th, 1749, when he says, "I rode to Leigh, in Essex, and spoke in as awakening a manner as I could. On Wed., Dec. 20th, I left the little flock in peace and love, and cheerfully returned to London. On Mon., Dec. 10th, 1750, I rode to Leigh, in Essex, when I found a little company seeking God, and endeavoured to encourage them in provoking one another to love and good works. Nov. 12th, 1753,—I set out in a chaise for Leigh, having delayed my journey as long as I could. I preached at 7, but was extremely cold all the time, the wind coming strong from a door behind, and another on one side; so that my feet felt just as if I had stood in cold water. Tues., 13th, the chamber wherein I sat, though with a large fire, was much colder than the garden, so that I could not keep myself tolerably warm, even when I was close to the chimney." We must here explain that Wesley had been very unwell before coming to Leigh, and on his return to London on the 14th, suffered extremely from his feet getting chilled, and riding in an open chaise, with a piercing cold wind in his face. There is a tradition he was a guest at the house of Dr. Cook, and the above account as regards the fire-place, tallies with several apertures in that edifice, and the garden alluded to is no longer in existence. His next visit was on Oct. 27th, 1755, and is deeply interesting, showing the state of the roads, and the dauntless spirit of the man. "We set out for Leigh, in Essex, but being hindered a little in the morning, the night came on without either moon or stars, when we were about

two miles short of Rayleigh. The ruts were so deep and uneven, that the horses could scarce stand, and the chaise was continually in danger of overturning; so that my companions thought it best to walk to town, though the road was both wet and dirty. Leaving them at Rayleigh, I took horse again. It was so thoroughly dark, that we could not see our horses' heads; however, by the help of Him to whom the night shineth as the day, we hit every turning, and without going a quarter of a mile out of our way, before nine we came to Leigh. Wed., 29, I returned to London." It is to be regretted that Wesley in his journal respecting this place does not mention a single individual by name, although in other instances his references in this respect are numerous, but it is gratifying to find him speaking of the Leigh people so kindly and hopefully. We may suppose the seed sown many years before by the old pious ministers of Leigh was still bearing fruit, as he nowhere denounces them in that caustic style which he sometimes applies to the inhabitants of other places, and from which high estate this people afterwards fell. Whilst here Wesley read over for the first time "Lord Anson's Voyage," and remarks "What pity he had not a better historian; one who had eyes to see, and courage to own the hand of God." Upon 11th October, 1756, he again went to Leigh, which is the last time we find that fact recorded, although possibly other visits may have been made, as the journal requires great research, comprising upwards of 900 closely written pages, and has no index. This good man possessed a knowledge, of the utmost use to all physicians of souls, an acquaintance with medicine, and says, "Where we dined, a poor woman came to the door with two little children; they seemed to be half starved, as well as their mother, who was also shivering with an ague. She was extremely thankful for a little food, and still more so for a few pills, which seldom fail to cure that

disorder." In this journey he read Voltaire's *Henriade*, and certainly never dreamt of the corruption that infidel occasioned by his writings. He says he was convinced from this poem that the French is the poorest language in Europe, and no more comparable to the German or Spanish than a bagpipe is to an organ, and that it is as impossible to write a fine poem in French, as to make fine music upon a Jew's harp. Wesley's disciples at Leigh are still numerous, and at the present day their chapel is well filled, principally by fishermen and their families. It is supposed that Wesley preached in an upper room not far from the present edifice. The earliest record extant is of an agreement issued October 11th, 1811, to let a piece of ground, 40ft. by 20ft., to build a chapel on, "to be subject to the Methodist Conference for the term of sixty-one years, ending Oct. 11th, 1882, at the yearly rent of £1 1s." The trustees being John Ferguson, George Turner, John Padner, Edward Gisbey, and the preacher, the Rev. Joseph Gutick. On April 7th, 1819, "a certificate certifying that the chapel yard, together with the chapel, and the adjoining yard, was intended to be used as a place of meeting, &c., was duly registered in the Commissary Court of the Lord Bishop of London" and signed. On September 26th, 1854, "the persons interested" received from the Eastern Counties and London and Blackwall Railway Companies "notice of intention to take and use "the said building, and in compensation the said company built the present chapel, which is much superior to the former one, and leased it for 21 years to the Wesleyan Society. However, December 30th, 1860, on receiving payment of £200, the Company enfranchised the land and chapel to the Wesleyans for ever; and the deed was enrolled in Chancery March 16, 1861. During the interval between the pulling down of the old and the erection of the new chapel, preaching services were held in the open air, on the square, not

always without opposition, notably so on one occasion, when constables were sent "to pull the preacher down."

There are several tokens extant, which were issued by tradesmen belonging to Leigh, of the 17th and 18th centuries. Tokens were in circulation from 1648 to 1672 when they were discontinued by Royal proclamation, but were again issued at various periods. They were either in brass or copper, and were used in commerce owing to the scanty supply of the copper coinage. There are 400 varieties known, of various forms, circular, square, octagonal, heart, and lozenge shapes. The following are recorded in the East Anglian in Nos. 88 and 89. The first a half-penny token, issued by George King, a Mercer, who was born in 1636, and died in 1690. "Obv. George King, His. Half. Penny. Rev. In. Leigh, 1668, three tobacco rolls," (in Mr. T. Hudson's collection.) The second, a farthing token, has "Obv. Thomas. Wall, 1666, a pair of shears, Rev. Leigh. Essex, T. W. A. (in the collection of the writer.) There is likewise a token in the Colchester Museum (presented by H. W. King, Esq.) of the 17th. century. "obv. R^SI in Leigh; rev. an anchor, at the anchor." In pulling down an old house in Leigh a few years back, a box of old coins were found, principally Georgian guineas, and a gold coin of James I. which latter is in the possession of Mr. Smith, of Colchester. There was likewise found a medal covered with ships, struck in memory of the capture of Porto Bello by Admiral Vernon. An ancient weight was ploughed up some years ago on "Chapman and Lords" and is now in the possession of Josiah Osborne. It is $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter, and $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in thickness, and has obv. the effigy of John King of Portugal, dated 1746, and rev. Three pound twelve. It was used for weighing Portuguese gold coins, called Portague's, of that value, much used in this country in the last century.* A

* See Ancient Wills, Vol. III. Part IV. page 194, of the Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society.

Roman amphora or wine jar, dug from the mud opposite this town, is now in the possession of James Synnock of Rayleigh; it is of red earthenware, and terminates at the extremity in the form of a screw.

The water that supplies this town is derived from a conduit and two artesian wells; they are called the Conduit Charity, and Lady Sparrow's Charities, and the pumps are known as the lower pump, the strand or middle pump, and the east or bay pump, which is erected on King's* strand. The conduit is the freehold of the parish and has been so from time immemorial, and in the records a plan of the pipes and the various cisterns is preserved. The spring head that supplies it rises in a bed of sand and gravel 15 feet deep, upon the summit of the cliff in Tile Kiln meadow, west of the Rectory ground. At the fountain head is a stone (now standing several rods further to the north than formerly, in consequence of the closing of Chess lane) the inscription upon which was fresh lettered in 1841, but since defaced. The first inscription was legible for 120 years, and we are able to give a copy of the notice from a water-colour drawing, in the possession of Mr. H. W. King, of Bow. "This stone is placed at ye Spring Head belonging to the cundit by desier of the parishioners of Leigh, 1712. William Hutton, Churchwarden." There are two or three underground tributary streams near this stone, which are assisted by the aid of stones and shells in finding their way to the crevices of the bricks forming the drain, by which the water is conducted to a large cistern in a garden adjoining the Tickle, and in its descent to the town passes through several smaller cisterns and under the railway to the conduit. The pipe from the uppermost cistern was formerly of lead, but glazed pipes have since been used, made at the adjacent Phoenix pottery. The passage of the water through the pipes

* So called from a member of the King family, who resided opposite this strand in the last century.

is frequently obstructed by weeds, but after repairs executed in February, 1826, upon being tested the water was found to flow at the rate of two gallons a minute, and in May, 1835, after removing the weed, it ran into the lower cistern at the rate of one quart per minute. Upon the wall outside this reservoir (which occupies the site of the original one) is an inscription recording that "the works belonging to this spring having been destroyed, were reinstated in the year 1825, by subscription, and were placed by the vestry under the management of a committee. Robert Eden, Chairman. Waste not, want not." Owing to the increase of population, the supply from this source was at length found inadequate, and upon a petition being presented to Lady Olivia Sparrow, the Lady of the Manor, she presented in 1832 a piece of ground 14 feet square in the middle of the Square, called the Strand, where the first efforts to obtain water were directed by the noted Samuel Purkis, of Baddow. This well is dug to the extent of 25 feet, and the total depth from the surface is 284 feet. Upon the water being obtained, a day was appointed and observed for thanksgiving to the Almighty for this gracious result. Upon the case of the pump, which is of iron, is recorded on the north side, the fact of her Ladyship's gift to the inhabitants of Leigh; on the west side are the names of the Committee by whom the management of these waters were confided, and on the south is inscribed "He clave the hard rocks in the wilderness. He brought waters out of the stony rock so that it gushed out like the rivers. Psalm lxxviii. 16 & 17 verses." In 1836 the supply of water from these two sources being still deficient, Lady Olivia granted an additional piece of ground, at the east end of the town, likewise 14 feet square upon the "King's Strand," when another well was bored by Purkis, the total depth from the surface being 249 feet, including 24 feet dug and bricked. Over this well is constructed the bay pump

with an inscription on an iron plate, recording the gift of the soil, which plate is attached to brickwork forming the enclosure. These two pieces of ground thus given to the inhabitants are subject to a quit rent of 1s. each per annum, and the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor and their successors for ever were admitted to the same as Trustees, and the admissions were deposited in the parish chest. In consequence of the conduit and these wells getting out of repair, and the water occasionally not flowing freely, especially in years of drought, the Committee were obliged to lock them up at stated hours, and at various times imposed a small tax generally of one farthing per load of 3 gallons, as a means of meeting the expenses, but sometimes the tax was apportioned according to the ability of the inhabitants, who were divided into three classes. This did not work harmoniously, and led to litigation, dispute, opposition, dissatisfaction, and frequent brawls. Upon the application of two of the inhabitants to a County Court held at Rochford, February 10th, 1858, a decree was made and a new scheme was established, consolidating the whole of the Charities. The old Trustees of Lady Sparrow's charities were removed, the Water Committee discharged, and the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers for the time being, and four resident inhabitants, rated at not less than £10 per annum, were constituted Trustees, who have the power of raising by the sale of the water such sums as are necessary for the repair of the works, and the expenses of administering the charities. By this decree the land, the conduit and the building erected thereon, together with Lady Olivia's charities held in trust for the above purposes, are declared vested in the official Trustee of Charity Lands and his successors.

The drainage of Leigh having been long in an unsatisfactory state, and a doubt existing as to the salubrity of the water, which, in the event of impurity,

(both causes combined) would be likely to cause great mortality in the event of pestilence, steps have been taken to rectify these disorders. A scheme has just been adopted for underground drainage, and an analysis of the water, (including the church-yard spring already referred to) was taken at the Rivers Commission Laboratory, in November and December, 1871, with the following result. All these waters were declared to contain certain quantities of sewage contamination. The water taken from the church-yard wear was pronounced very hard, very bad, and unfit for domestic use. Of the three lower wells, the water from the conduit tap is the hardest, and contained a few suspected particles; that from the middle or strand pump is softer and was slightly turbid, whilst that from the bay pump is pronounced the softest, the most pure, and was very slightly turbid. These irregularities so far as regards the lower wells, will no doubt be entirely removed by the contemplated improvements.

NOTE.—Whilst publishing the foregoing history of Leigh, (A.D., 1872) the contemplated extension of the chancel of this Church has been carried out by the addition of $17\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length. It is intended to re-insert the large eastern window, and to add two new lights in the decorated style, with trefoil heads in the side walls.

NOTE.—From further search amongst the state papers, (Car. 1) we find that “John Tucker, late of Lambeth, but now of Lee in Essexe,” was apprehended by a warrant signed by the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl Marshall, the Earl of Dorset, Mr. Sec. Windlebank, and others, to answer a charge of prompting one Hamon, tenant to Richard Carew, of Beddington, to “groobe” a wood.

NOTE.—In the domestic state papers, Eliz. vol. 70, No. 2. we find “The certificat and aunswer of Vincent Harris & Arthure Harris esquiers to the lres and articles sent frome

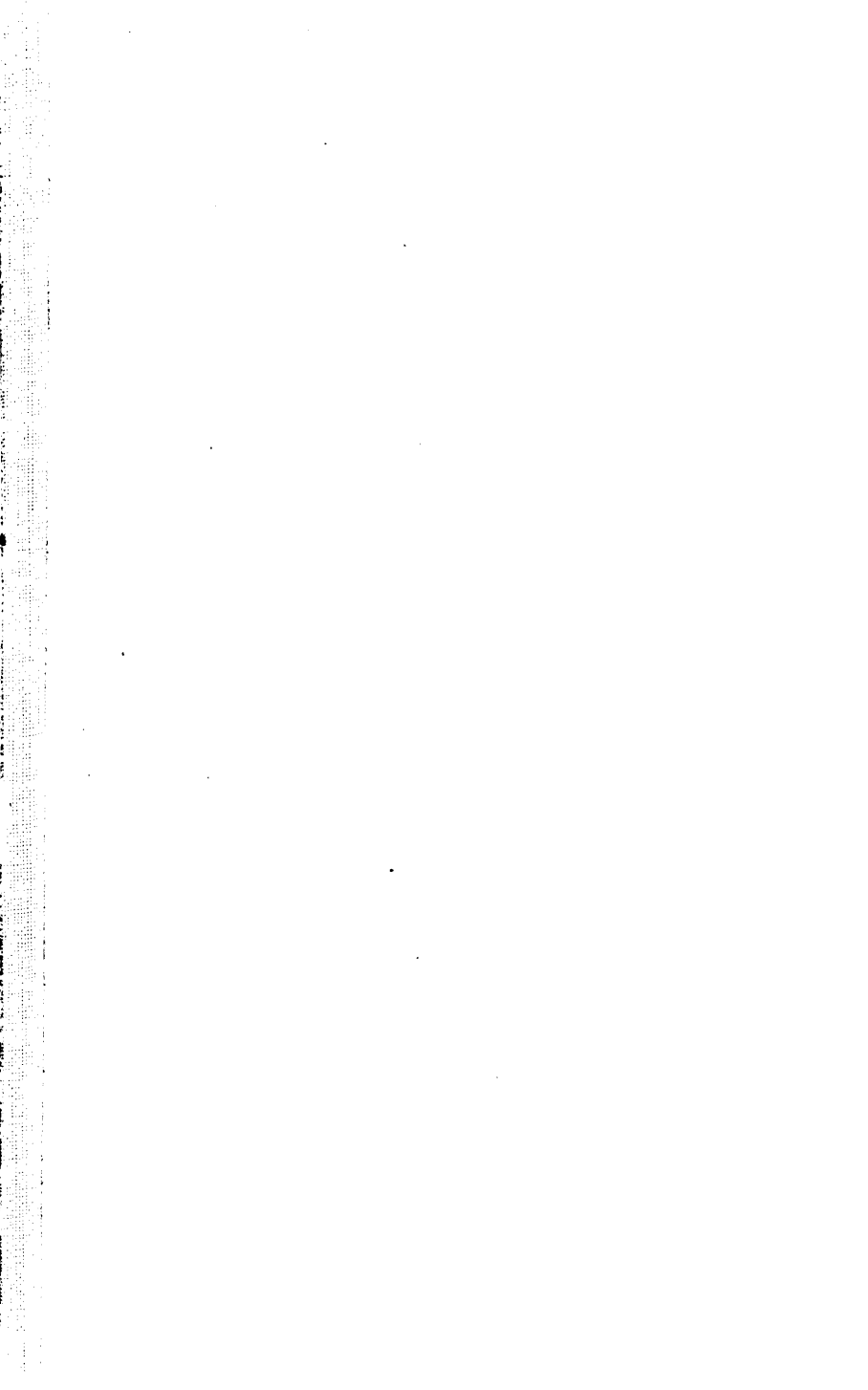
the queenes maties privie Councell as touching ye contri-
bucons and charge susteyned" by the town of Leigh towards
the first musters in April, 1569 for armor, weapons, and other
furniture requisite for the defence of the realm. Robert
Noble and Thomas Moose constables present that the town-
ship provided "too Callivers, too morians, too swords, too
daggers, and too Cotes" at a cost of *iiij^l xvij^s*, that the
inhabitants expended for "powther, shott, meate and drinke
for soldiers trayned *xvij^s*" and further that ten of the in-
habitants provided at their common charge, "too haquebutts
& too morians," for which they collected *xlvj^s. viij^d* and a
further sum of *xlvs* was sustained by the township for "prest
and conducte of soldiers appoynted and not sent forthe."
Essex in 1577 contributed 4000 trained footmen, 8,800 un-
trained, 50 "Launces," and 200 light horse.

NOTE TO HOCKLEY.—Since writing the account of the
possessions of Wadham College, in Hockley, (page 305) we
have obtained additional interesting information, extracted
from the deeds and documents, showing that the rectory
and advowson have always gone together. "From the
crown they passed to Newport and Crompton 22 Dec. 4 Jas. 1.
From Newport and Crompton to John Clyffe, of Ingatestone,
Esq., 20 May, 7 Jas. 1. From Clyffe to the Foundress 21
May, 8 Jas. 1. From the Foundress to the College 29 May,
13 Jas. 1. 1615." Some years afterwards the right of the
College to present to the vicarage was disputed, but they
maintained their right.

END OF VOL. I.

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